

MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER



TWO DOLLARS A YEAR.

"PROGRESS AND IMPROVEMENT."

{SINGLE NO. FIVE CENTS.

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MOORE'S RURAL NEW-YORKER,
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RURAL, LITERARY AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

CONDUCTED BY D. D. T. MOORE.

CHARLES D. BRAGDON, Associate Editor.

HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.,
Editor Department of Sheep Husbandry.

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTORS:

F. BARRY, C. DEWEY, LL. D.,
H. T. BROOKS, L. B. LANGWORTHY.

W. T. KENNEDY, Jr., Assistant Office Editor.

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For Terms and other particulars, see last page.



CHEESE MANUFACTURERS' CONVENTION.

[Concluded from page 46, last number.]

OBJECTIONS TO THE FACTORY SYSTEM CONSIDERED.

Adulteration.—Mr. BARTLETT said some of the objections to the factory system could only be answered by stating the advantages—arraying one against the other. Our objection is adulteration. [The remarks of Mr. B. on this subject are given elsewhere.—EDS. RURAL.]

Labor and Expense.—Another objection is the labor and expense of carrying the milk to the factory. Some farmers who don't know say that this alone is equal to the cost of manufacture at home. Mr. BARTLETT exploded the idea by reference to facts in his own experience. He said he had established for his factory a system for transporting the milk in large quantities, sending out teams on the different routes. The expense this way was much less than it was where each farmer carried his own, especially if living at a distance.

Sour Milk.—Another objection—the liability to have sour milk—had weight. His factory had had much difficulty in this direction, because of milk being kept over from one milking to the next and then put it with warm milk. It almost invariably gave trouble. He believed the passage of the law contemplated would have a tendency to prevent this. As to keeping cans sweet, if they were thoroughly scalded and washed once a day and rinsed the second time used there would be no trouble.

Diversity in Quality of Milk.—Another objection is the difference in the quality of milk of different dairies, owing to feed and manner of keeping. This objection could only be fully met by offsetting the overbalancing advantages of the factory system. But we lack statistics on this point, and he did not think the difference was very great. He had arrived at this conclusion by testing the milk of many factories; the difference was not more than one per cent. in any case. With individual dairies it might be more.

Loss of Whey.—The loss of whey is another objection. He did not think much of the whey, and doubted if a net profit could be realized from it any way it could be handled. It had been a losing thing with him to feed it to hogs.

Mr. H. FARRINGTON, of Herkimer, had had extensive acquaintance with cheese factories, and had come to a different conclusion, with respect to the value of whey, from the gentleman from Ohio. He had said we did not get nearly all the solid matter out of whey. True, and for that reason it was valuable for hogs. In many cases he believed it more than doubled the live weight of hogs. But the whey should not

be fed alone. Solid matter, as corn and grain should be added to produce healthy hogs.

Mr. WM. WHEELER, of Trenton, had been carrying on a small factory—500 cows. He had kept, in connection, 50 hogs, two-thirds of them grown and the rest of them spring pigs. He fed them they only till about September, and then commenced giving grain. Fed the whey sweet and warm. The result was \$2 profit per cow. The sweeter the milk the better it was for the hogs. All young animals partook of milk sweet; and he could see no reason for feeding sour whey.

Mr. W. F. COMSTOCK, of Utica, wished to tell one single experiment in the use of whey. He knew a factory where the farmers were requested to take back their whey in their cans. Those that did this always had sweet cans.

The Increased Price.—Mr. JACOB ELLISON, of Herkimer, said the factories had greatly increased the value of American cheese in the English market; they alone had done it. Their cheese had sold during the past season for 1 and 2 cents per pound more than the cheese of single dairies. This was a sufficient answer to all objections against the factory system.

How the Age of Milk Affects the Quality of Cheese.—Mr. FARRINGTON said he began to make cheese thirty years ago; made Saturday night cheese for a while, and found them inferior. Then he made three days cheese and found them superior. A gentleman suggested that the reason was because the animal heat got out of the milk. He was attracted by the idea and concluded to cool his milk before making his cheese. Was surprised to find the cheese inferior, and concluded the more he learned the less he knew. After several years a new idea struck him—that it was a peculiar condition of the milk acquired by age which made the difference. So he saved his night's milk till the next morning, and his morning's milk till afternoon, before making it into cheese. He found these cheese were very superior—as good as he ever saw. In answer to questions, Mr. FARRINGTON said that he supposed the peculiar condition to be simply the change of the sugar of milk in the milk to an acid; that he had added sour whey to new milk several times, but did not think the cheese were as good and mellow as in the other case; did not think he got the same condition; animal heat with sour whey was objectionable.

Cooling the Milk.—Mr. FISH, of Herkimer, believed that milk should be stirred while cooling to allow certain properties that should not go into the cheese to pass off. His theory was that milk which cooled suddenly retained those properties, and thus made poorer cheese. The question of cooling milk he deemed an important one to dairymen. Believed the morning's and night's milk should be kept apart, because of antagonisms in their constituent parts. The difference of night from day feeding made a difference in the milk, and the two milkings would not readily and fully unite because of antagonisms; also with mixing sour and sweet or cold and warm milk. As to rennets, in saving them particular care should be taken not to let them sour or taint, for a like reason. Did not think the use of four times the usual amount of rennet would make a difference in taste; would make the cheese more solid. Just enough rennet should be used to coagulate fully—no more. Would not let the curd get entirely cold before putting it into the hoop. Night's milk made the best cheese.

THE SIZE FOR CHEESE.

Mr. SIMMONS, of Oneida, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Convention approve for size of cheese, 20 inches in diameter by 10 inches deep, weighing, cured, about 100 lbs.

He said the medium size and weight mentioned were those desired by shippers, and that the interests of cheese manufacturers rendered a uniformity important.

Mr. MORE, of Kirkland, Oneida, said that cheese of the above dimensions would weigh from 115 to 120 lbs. He would recommend cheese a little deeper and of less diameter, as being of better shape and easier to handle; shippers preferred them. Such cheese would cure as well as those not so deep.

Mr. FARRINGTON, of Herkimer, said that they made cheese of the size mentioned in the resolution up to August, and then larger, weighing 150 lbs. The larger size was preferred by some buyers. It occasioned less pressing and fewer boxes.

Mr. ELLISON, of Herkimer, was satisfied that cheese could be made weighing 150 or 100 lbs. which would be as salable as smaller ones. A cheese maker had told him that he could make cheese in a 24 inch hoop, twelve inches deep, for half a cent less a pound than he could if he adopted the smaller size. There was no objection to cheese weighing even 200 lbs., if they were of good quality. This buying so many boxes, and paying freight on cord wood, was unnecessary. Large cheese can be safely delivered if they are properly boxed and handled. The cheese should fit the box, and the box should be cut down so as to leave no space at the top, if necessary. If a space is left in the top the air contained in it becomes heated, and the cheese is liable to puff and spoil in consequence. He believed the quality of the large cheese would be better than if smaller, provided they were properly made, and would be preferred by consumers. He sold them as readily as others. They required less room for storage, and were easily turned by the present methods.

A gentleman stated that cheese of the size mentioned by Mr. Ellison would weigh from 190 to 200 lbs.

Mr. FARRINGTON said that all the dealers he had conversed with during the past year preferred, for handling, cheese of 100 lbs.; he thought this size better in hot weather.

Mr. BUDLONG, of New York—a dealer—was questioned, and said the dealers, with scarcely an exception, preferred the smaller size for summer freighting—cheese of about 100 lbs. He would recommend 18 inches by 10; cheese of this size would weigh about 100 lbs. The 18 inch cheese would weigh about 10 lbs. to an inch in depth, the 20 inch about 12 lbs. to an inch—as a rule.

Mr. FARRINGTON said about 20 cubic inches of cheese would weigh a pound. Mr. BUDLONG'S rule was nearly correct.

The above resolution was rejected by vote.

A STATE ORGANIZATION EFFECTED.

A committee, consisting of B. F. STEVENS, GEORGE WILLIAMS, S. L. FISH, B. STILES, J. A. WEEKS, reported the following "Articles of Association" for a permanent State organization, which were adopted:

Whereas, it is deemed expedient to organize an association through which, as a medium, results of the practical experience of dairymen may be gathered and disseminated to the dairying community; therefore,

We, the undersigned, do hereby associate ourselves together for mutual improvement in the science of cheese-making, and more efficient action in promoting the general interests of the dairying community.

1. The name of the organization shall be the New York State Cheese Manufacturers' Association.
2. The officers of the association shall consist of a President, five Vice Presidents, a Secretary and Treasurer.
3. The President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Board of the association.
4. The officers of the association shall be elected at the regular annual meeting and shall retain their office until their successors are chosen.
5. The regular annual meeting shall occur on the second Wednesday in January, and at such place as the Executive Board shall designate.
6. Any person may become a member of the association and be entitled to all its benefits by the annual payment of one dollar.

The following gentlemen were elected officers of this association:

- President—Geo. WILLIAMS, Oneida.
1st Vice President—SETH MILLER, Lewis.
2d " " DAVID HAMLIN, Jefferson.
3d " " A. J. FISH, Herkimer.
4th " " GEO. E. MORSE, Madison.
5th " " MOSES KINNEY, Cortland.
Secretary—W. H. COMSTOCK, Utica.
Treasurer—L. R. LYON, Lewis.

Over one hundred names were enrolled as members.

SORGHUM FOR FORAGE.—P. B. S., of Huron Co., Ohio, writes on this subject:—"I learned one fact of value connected with the growing of sugar cane, viz., that cane fodder cut before frosted, and cured properly, is far superior to corn fodder, for winter feed for horses,—and the amount per acre exceeds any other kind of fodder grown."

RING-WORMS AROUND CALVES' EYES.—To remove these it is recommended to brush and wash the parts with soap and warm water; and, when dry, apply a mixture of lard and sulphur. Do our readers know anything better?



EDITED BY HENRY S. RANDALL, LL. D.

SHEEP WORK IN FEBRUARY.

If any of the sheep work appropriate to January was overlooked or neglected, let that be first attended to. It is now high time that the manure in every sheep stable should be entirely cleaned out, down to the floor or ground, and its place supplied with fresh, dry litter. If the manure can be put under cover, it will be much more valuable in the spring. To prevent its heating and fire-fanging, spread it thin; or if it must be put in a heap, throw it in thin layers and trample down each of these hard. Sprinkling each layer with gypsum will not only add a first-rate fertilizing agent to the manure, but an absorbent which will materially assist in preventing its own good properties escaping in the form of gases.

Do any of the sheep pick their wool—nibbling and partly pulling out locks of it, which hang down their sides, giving them a ragged and feathered appearance? If so, buy a little of the blue mercurial ointment of the druggists' shops, and having mixed it thoroughly with five or six equal parts of lard, apply a little of it with the end of the finger to the skin of the sheep—rubbing it in—in various places where the wool is most pulled. Begin cautiously in respect to the amount of ointment used, and apply the second time if necessary.

Those who begin to winter their flocks on a restricted diet, such as straw, inferior hay, &c., expecting to improve it before spring, will find it expedient to commence that improvement before the close of February—particularly if the sheep are lambs or old breeding ewes. If either of the latter enter the month of March poor, it is always too late to restore their condition before they get to grass again, and oftentimes too late to save their lives. A rapid increase of food then frequently only accelerates their fate, by bringing on diarrhea, followed by loss of appetite. If they live, the ewe is apt to lose her lamb—and either loses more in the weight and quality of the next fleece than all the extra cost of good keeping. It ought to be laid down as a rule on every sheep farm that lambs and old ewes shall receive prime feed all winter—and, if this is impossible, that they shall at least receive it after the middle of February. But in all cases, let the change from inferior to prime feed be made rather gradually, if grain or roots are given.

Strong, middle-aged breeding ewes requiring an improvement in their winter feed should receive it at least a month before lambing. If in good store condition, turnips alone will suffice, and will prepare them to give abundance of milk to their lambs. From a pound to a pound and a half per head is a sufficient feed—and it is vastly cheaper than any kind of grain.

Do all farmers understand the virtue there is in fine, greenly cured, bright clover hay for sheep of all ages and descriptions? If in good health, they will fatten on it. They relish it better than any other hay. Store sheep taken from poor hay, or hay and straw, by the middle of February, in fair, moderate condition, will come into the spring finely if put on such clover alone. Let no man imagine that the fine green rowen or after-sward hay of timothy meadows, or even of blue grass, bears any comparison in value to such clover for sheep.

Pregnant ewes demand light, air and exercise, at this season. Dark, close, hot stables, or constant confinement even in well lighted and ventilated ones, lead to an unhealthy habit—if accompanied by good keep, to a plethoric habit of body—which is likely to prove injurious to the proper development of the fetus. Close confinement and over feeding have produced immense losses in the choice breeding flocks of our country. When neither snow nor rain are falling, the stable doors should be left open—and, in our judgment, it is a capital plan at such times to fodder sheep out on the clean snow. If they are foddered at a stack and have to walk one or two hundred rods to reach it, all the better. True, this out-door exposure to sun and wind will evaporate away a little of the yolk

which gives dark color and more weight to a "brag fleece"—but we take it that breeders have some other objects besides bragging, and even besides selling. We take it that health, increase, and, ultimately, constitution itself, are not all to be intentionally deteriorated to secure a present and short-lived success in selling sheep. The pampering system now resorted to by certain sheep-fitters and salesmen, if continued for a few generations, will change the type of the matchless American Merino, and convert it into a great and far feebler animal than was the full blood French Merino when it was first introduced into the United States.

Continue to feed with undeviating punctuality in respect to time. See that the sheep have salt and water constantly within reach. Avoid roughly handling heavily pregnant ewes. Allow no horses, cattle or other farm stock to run in the same yards with them.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

RANDOLPH, OHIO, Jan. 11.

Before leaving Newark on the morning of the 8th, we met a Mr. KERR, who is a good specimen of an old-fashioned, hard-shell sheep raiser. He said he owned seven thousand, and that they averaged from three to three and a half pounds of wool per head. When asked why he did not improve this weight of fleece by the use of suitable rams, he replied that he "was one of those kind of men that were satisfied with doing well enough," and he sagaciously added, "you know dogs are just as likely to kill a high-priced buck as a common one." But such antediluvians as this are rare birds in Ohio. On all sides the key-note of the wool growers is improvement. High prices are held as nothing provided they secure that improvement.

At this place we unfortunately lost General HARRIS from our company, special business requiring his return to Columbus. We proceeded by rail from Newark to Mount Vernon—passing over the magnificent plains of Licking and Knox counties. It would be impossible to conceive of a finer farming country. Mount Vernon is a handsome city of about 5,000 inhabitants. We rode to the farm of Hon. C. DELANO & Son, three or four miles out of town. Here we found a hundred full blood Merinos, nearly half of them of Infatado (Hammond) stock, and the remainder a cross between the preceding and Paular (Rich) sheep. The flock is a superior one, and contains the ewes which took the first premium at the last State Fair. The senior Mr. DELANO is at Columbus discharging his duties as a Senator. The son is a frank, intelligent and highly pleasing young gentleman, who is preparing to become a wool grower on a very large scale. The farm lies in a beautiful country, and the view as we returned toward Mount Vernon—the latter in full sight, resting on the side of a broad, low hill—was one of the most charming mixtures of town and rural scenery I ever witnessed. I speak of utilitarian beauty. And that is all that characterizes any part of Ohio which I have seen. It is essentially a vast plain. The hills are mere undulations, the highest I saw (the "Welch Hills" in Licking) not apparently exceeding two or three hundred feet in height. Yet but little of the country has that dead level surface which renders the streams sluggish and the land difficult of drainage.

An artist in quest of wild and picturesque scenery would find vastly more of it in an hour's ride in Westchester county, New York, than in all Northern Ohio. But, after all, on the broad plains of the latter, is a nobler beauty. It is the beauty which speaks of prodigal fertility, which speaks of rich and cultivated homes to the toiling masses—of a civilization embracing nearly all, and advancing without the drawbacks of penury or overwork. Within the recollection of men not yet old, these regions were covered with the primeval forest. Stout-hearted but comparatively penniless men came with axes on their shoulders and opened up their farms. Now they are farm princes. Their sons are the leaders and lawgivers of the land.

There is a much stronger infusion of German in the leading population than in the Eastern States. Such names as HILDEBRANDT, EVERHARDT, UPDEGRAFF, RUTTEROFF, DEARDOFF, etc., meet you frequently, and they belong, in many instances, to the largest and most successful farmers of Ohio. There is also a numerous Welch population, which is said to be composed of as industrious and thrifty farmers as there are in the State.

In the afternoon we proceeded by rail to Cleveland, which we reached at 9 P. M. We had expected to stop and examine some flocks at Shelby and other intermediate points, but the trains were behind time, and we could not do so without losing succeeding trains and suffering much detention.

On the morning of the 9th, on the invitation of Messrs. A. & E. POPE, I visited the Cleveland Woolen Mills, which are under the superintendence of those gentlemen. It is a new establishment, containing five sets of the very best machinery. From ten to twelve hundred yards of fancy cassimeres, flannels and cloakings are manufactured in it daily. It is the largest and most complete woolen manufacturing establishment in the West, and is in the highest repute for the quality of its cloths. The Messrs. POPE won the first prize at one of the World's Fairs on their cassimeres.

We left for Ravenna in the afternoon. The route lay through the "Western Reserve." The land here appears to be better adapted to grazing than grain growing. We passed one of the four State Lunatic Asylums of Ohio at Newburg, six miles from Cleveland—and the Western Reserve College at Hudson, twenty-four miles further on. From Ravenna we took a carriage to Randolph, the residence of THOMAS GORBY. The weather was intensely cold, and we were delighted to reach the hospitable mansion of our entertainer and find roaring fires, all sorts of "good things," and a hearty welcome awaiting us.

Mr. GORBY has a flock of two hundred and fifty sheep—fifty-four of them being pure blood Merinos. Forty-nine are of pure Hammond or Infatado stock, chiefly bred by VICTOR WRIGHT, of Vermont, or from animals purchased of him. All of Mr. GORBY'S full bloods are good, and some of them admirable. He has drawn the first prize on both ram and ewes at the Ohio State Fair. His two-year old ram "Hannibal," the victor at the State Fair, bred by Mr. WRIGHT, is one of the showiest and heaviest fleeced animals I ever saw. I will enter into no particular description of him, reserving that to accompany an illustration which his owner hopes to be able to procure for the RURAL NEW-YORKER. In 1862, Mr. GORBY had twenty-nine full blood fleeces, which averaged 11 lbs. 1 oz. each of unwashed wool. Six of them were ram's fleeces, among which were "Hannibal's" first fleece, weighing 17 lbs., and that of another ram weighing 14 1/2 lbs. The other rams were yearlings. Seven of the ewes were yearlings, and the rest were breeding ewes. The wool was sent to a country carding and cloth-dressing machine, and after being there scoured, averaged four pounds and fourteen ounces per fleece. If the last process was properly performed, this was a most remarkable product of scoured wool. Mr. GORBY lives in a fine township of land, and everything about him bespeak him a first class farmer.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Jan. 15. ON the 11th we returned from Mr. GORBY'S hospitable mansion to Ravenna. This was contrary to the programme—for on that day we were to have gone into Stark county to visit the flock of Mr. MCDOWELL, the former shepherd of Mr. DICKINSON, of the celebrated firm of WELLS & DICKINSON, whose sheep are claimed to form the substratum of nearly all the old fine woolled flocks of Ohio. But I am informed that Mr. MCDOWELL repels with great indignation the idea that Mr. WELLS had anything to do with the breeding of the sheep—claiming that all that credit belongs to Mr. DICKINSON. He has attempted to keep his own flock to the same line of breeding—improving them, but without changing the type. He utterly repudiates the modern improved American Merinos, which have originated in Vermont. His sheep, I am told, shear about four pounds of wool, of a very superior quality. I greatly regretted not seeing this flock of what was generally considered thirty years ago first class sheep, and learning from the lips of their owner their history, his varied experiences in sheep breeding, and his reasons for rejecting crosses with the improved heavy fleeced Merino of our country. But we should have been compelled to travel more than thirty miles in a wagon over rough roads, with the thermometer below zero and a bitter wind blowing. Severe colds already caught by two of our party rendered such an experiment too hazardous.

From Ravenna we proceeded through a grazing country to Youngstown, in Mahoning Co., which borders on Pennsylvania. Youngstown contains about six thousand inhabitants. There are six iron furnaces, three rolling mills, and various other manufacturing establishments in or about the town. The neighboring hills furnish coal and iron ore—though Lake Superior ore is now used more than the latter owing to its richness. It is brought from Cleveland by the Ohio and Pennsylvania canal. Governor TODD resides near Youngstown. We remained overnight at the house of R. M. MONTGOMERY, Esq., two or three miles east of the town. Mr. MONTGOMERY has 300 sheep, about half of them full blood Merinos, a portion of them of Paular blood, but much the larger portion Infatados, composed of sheep drawn from the flocks of WILLIAM R. SANFORD and VICTOR WRIGHT, of Vermont, and their descendants. The sheep were not "fitted up" for show, most of them having been exposed to the weather during the summer—but the flock contained numerous very superior animals of both sexes. Mr. MONTGOMERY is a vigorous and successful farmer.

We returned to Cleveland on the 12th, and in the afternoon to Painesville twenty-nine miles further east, on the Lake Shore railroad, and took up our quarters with Mr. W. F. GREER, two miles from that place. His farm is on some beautiful elevated table-land bordering the bottoms of Grand river. It was among the first settled farms in the Western Reserve, and was

esteemed so valuable, and the prospects of Painesville were considered so superior to those of Cleveland, that Governor HUNTINGTON, the grandfather of the wife of the present proprietor, swapped land now in the center of the city of Cleveland for the farm I am describing. Mr. GREER is comparatively a new beginner with full blood sheep, and has some good animals of both the principal families of Merinos. His arrangements for the keeping of his sheep are systematic. We saw far better sheep racks on his farm than in any other place in Ohio. At Painesville, I met Judge CHAFFER, of Jefferson, Ashtabula county, descriptions of whose imported Shropshire sheep are given in the Practical Shepherd. He is a self-made man of vigorous intellect and high legal attainments.

We left Painesville on the 13th, and commenced our return home—expecting to visit no more sheep farms on the route.

As a whole, I discovered but one great want in Ohio—that of fencing and building timber. The State is now generally admirably fenced—and the fields are small. It is a great pity that one-half the fences were not again back in the standing trees, awaiting the requirements of the next generation. It appeared to me that there was not timber enough in many parts of the State I visited to fence it again as it now is fenced.

I left Ohio deeply impressed with its immense resources and power as a State—captivated by its rural beauty and fertility—pleased with its farm stock—and pleased most of all with its people. I am inclined to believe, with JEFFERSON, that the "Great West" is destined to develop a nobler, freer, and, in some respects, higher civilization, than those old lands which are hedged about and paved over with the traditions of the past.

Communications, Etc.

A COMPOST HEAP IN SPRING.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Allow me to tell my RURAL brethren how to have on hand every spring an abundant and valuable compost heap. Most farmers think a compost heap is an appurtenance belonging only to fancy, book men. But every farmer should have one. First, spread in some out-of-the-way place, not too near the house, (but where your neighbors can see it, and ask what you have got there, for they will be sure to follow your example,) five or six loads of common horse, or cow, or sheep manure, over a space twenty feet in diameter. Cover the same with as many loads of sand, from the nearest sand bank, and the thing is fairly started. If you wish to use the night-soil from the privy, the work must be done next spring for the year after, and the night-soil placed between the manure and sand. In fact, a good compost heap should be allowed one year for decay and amalgamation. Now, I am writing not especially for men of leisure, but for farmers who have something to do beside to pitch a compost heap over three or four times. A foundation formed, as above, may then become the ready receptacle of the accumulations of the hog pen and hen roost. Coarse feathers of fowls, bones, tainted meats,—if the farmer shall be so unfortunate as to have any,—or the carcasses of dead animals, chopped fine, and buried, with abundance of lime and unleached ashes,—which, by the way, is the best manner to prevent their becoming nuisances. Instead of digging an underground drain for soap-suds, old brine, &c., let them be spread upon the heap. This done, fifty dollars worth of manure can be made as well as to pay that amount to the dear family physician for curing the fevers produced by abominable sink-holes about the house. If any ashes are to be thrown away, put them in the heap instead of throwing them about the door, to be tracked back into the house. If compost is needed for immediate use, go to the sand pit and fill the wagon box one-third full of sand, then one inch in depth of leached ashes, three inches in depth of hen or well-rotted manure, and then fill up the box with fine chip manure, or other rich mold from the woods, or any other place where it can be obtained, and you have a good article. M. L. COLE, Waupun, Wis., 1864.

REMARKS.—There is one thing suggested by the above to which we wish to call attention. It is the importance of saving night soil—of using it, incorporating it with other manures, mixing it, and deodorizing it with charcoal. The loss of night soil is one of the greatest manurial wastes on the farm.

HINTS TO FARMERS ABOUT TO BUILD.

"TIME is money." A farmer ought to think of this before he locates his barn a half mile from his dwelling, or even an eighth of a mile. We know a well-to-do farmer, who built his barns forty rods from his house,—at least twenty rods further off than there was any call for. Twenty rods is one-sixteenth of a mile. He and his men went to the barn at least four times daily, on an average. In going and returning, they would travel one half mile each, or both, one mile daily, which might have been saved by a judicious location of his barn. One mile a day is three hundred and sixty-five miles a year. In thirty years it would amount to nearly eleven thousand miles of travel; enough to perform a journey to Europe and back, and overland to California.

A large farmer builds a new house. He locates his pantry so that the good wife, to set the table, has to pass through a long hall, at least sixteen and one-half feet further than necessary had he used good judgment in locating his kitchen and pantry. The good woman and her girl went into that pantry at least twenty times daily,—making at least forty rods of extra steps

daily, or over forty-five miles yearly. This tax was upon one already overburdened with labor and cares.

Farmers, think twice before you build; yes, think a good many times. Do not build in a hurry, to repent at your leisure. Take plenty of time to thoroughly digest all your plans. Study to make everything convenient, both for yourself and household. A little difference, in locating your buildings, or rooms, may make a large saving in doing the work of the farm, or the household. A difference of a few steps is a small matter, if it only occurred but once; but when they have to be taken several times daily, for years, it becomes an important matter. Rolling Prairie, Wis., 1864. L. L. FAIRCHILD.

Condensed Correspondence.

Cheapest Mode of Feeding Horses.

J. FISK, of Baldwinville, N. Y., writes us that he has a horse, five years old, used as a family carriage horse, and is frequently let to his neighbors. His labor is considerable. In the morning he feeds a bushel basket of cut out straw; moistens it with water; throws in four quarts of shorts, mixes thoroughly and feeds. At noon gives straw again, and two or four quarts of shorts clear. At night mixes hay and straw—equal parts of each—cuts a basketful and mixes shorts again as in the morning. Feeds also the potato and apple parings, cabbage leaves, &c., to him. His horse is free from cough, lively, healthy and fat; and this practice he is confident saves him 50 per cent. the cost of keeping a horse the usual way—costs about three minutes' time per day. This is an important item in the days of high feed.

Lice on Cattle.

EDS. RURAL NEW-YORKER:—Permit me, through your columns, to give publicity to an easy, safe and convenient way of destroying lice on cattle or horses. Take one pint of alcohol in its full strength, pour half of it on the head and along the back of the cow or colt, and rub it in the hair to prevent wasting it. A week afterwards use the other half in the same manner, and the lice and nits will be destroyed. For the benefit of those who keep but one cow, and pasture it with other cattle, I would say, put the alcohol on once every three months, and your cow will keep free from lice in the midst of a lousy herd. Will not some farmer try it? AN OLD FRIEND AND CONSTANT READER.

How to Make Yellow Butter in Winter.

DORA DORRINGS, a Steuben county housewife, tells us how she does it. She says:—I scald the milk immediately after straining it in the pans; set it over a kettle of hot water, or over a moderate fire, until a scum settles over it. Then set it away, carefully, in a clean cupboard or rack. Pans are filled two-thirds full. Do not disturb it until all the cream has risen, say 48 hours, if not disturbed and kept warm. The atmosphere should be kept of as even temperature as possible. I keep fire during the night by putting a large stick in the stove and closing the damper. When ready to churn, I warm the cream by pouring warm new or sweet milk with it and stirring it gradually as I pour it in. Water should never be put into the cream, nor near the butter, as it washes away the good, rich, sweet flavor and yellow look of the butter—so my experience teaches me. I never put cold water on butter in summer, but leave the butter to cool off in its own milk and salt. By careful management, the very best of sweet, yellow butter can be made in this way. Up to this date (20th Jan., '64), I have not had to churn longer than 15 minutes to bring my butter.

Litter the Stables.

As an appendix to the above, Madame DORA says:—"Be sure to keep your stables well littered with straw or something. For there never was a rice article of butter made from strong, dirty, cow-smelling milk." So say we!

Inquiries and Answers.

CLOVER CHAFF FOR ICE HOUSES.—Will you, or some of your readers, please inform me, through the RURAL, whether clover chaff will answer in place of saw dust, in filling an ice house?—A SUBSCRIBER, Fredre, N. Y.

A JERSEY OR ALDERNEY COW WANTED.—Can you tell me where I can purchase a pure bred Jersey cow, three years old, with calf?—F. P.

We cannot. If any one has such stock for sale, they should let it be known. We have received two or three inquiries of this character.

WHERE SAP BUCKETS MAY BE FOUND.—In response to an inquiry, a soldier in the army of the Potomac writes us that they can be had in any quantity in the town of Winchendon, Mass. Parties having them for sale should advertise them.

Later—Another correspondent says they may be obtained at Jamestown, N. Y.

COST OF PLANTING AN ACRE OF HOPS.—Will some one who has had experience in the business, state the cost of preparing the ground and planting an acre of hops. And what kind should be planted, and oblige—A RURAL READER, Eagle, N. Y.

In 1861 a Herkimer Co. correspondent having experienced said that "to start a fair acre poled hop yard, one thousand dollars was an indispensable requisite, beside the land fees." We shall be glad to hear from other hop growers on the subject.

FOUL BROOD IN BEES AT THE WEST.—Can you tell me whether there has been any "foul brood" found among bees at the West? A stranger told me the other day that he had seen it in one or two apiaries in Wisconsin.—G. F.

We are not aware that it does exist there to any extent, at least. But we have seen it there in a single swarm. That swarm was recently from this (New York) State. The party having it said he should get rid of it at once. There is reason to apprehend its introduction there. Experienced apiarists there fear it.

A FLAX MACHINE WANTED.—I desire to inquire through the RURAL who manufactures flax machines for separating the shive from the fiber of flax. I am acquainted with the flax-brake, hatched, swinging-knife and board of olden time, but I want a quicker process, especially in these war times, as laborers are scarce. I have a good water-power to which I can attach such a machine, if such there be, and would like to know where a machine can be purchased.—A SUBSCRIBER, Sugarston, N. Y.

SANDFORD & MALLORY'S patent is an excellent machine. Our advertising columns are open to replies to such questions.

HOW ABOUT THE FLAX BUSINESS?—Does it pay? Is there no danger of overdoing the business? I wish some of your correspondents would give us the facts and figures of experience in the matter through the RURAL. We expect a flax mill in this vicinity soon; shall we go in?—JAS. M. JENKINS, Wayne Co., N. Y.

We should say, in reply to the last question, yes. Meantime, will our readers who have grown flax give us the facts and figures asked for—either favorable or unfavorable to flax-growing. The light is no more important than the shade. Negative facts are as valuable as affirmative ones.

ARE YOU RESPONSIBLE?—Have I a right to infer from some of your answers to correspondents, that you hold yourself responsible for all the imposition, swindling, &c., that men who advertise in your columns may thereby practice upon your subscribers or readers?—T. H. WELLS, Berrien Co., Mich.

No Sir! It is our aim to publish only such advertisements as will benefit our readers; but we cannot distinguish better than they, which are the honest, and which the dishonest advertisers. We will be glad to know who among our advertisers are swindlers. We shall be glad to furnish the public with such information, if well established.

LIME AS A MANURE.—What amount of lime should be put upon the acre of land, the soil of which is a clayey loam? Should it be put on the land alone or in the manure? And will it pay to draw it twelve miles and pay 15 cents per bushel? An early answer is solicited.—H. H. M., Cicero, Onondaga Co., N. Y.

The amount should depend upon the amount of clay, and the chemical condition of the soil—whether it is wet or sour or not, and whether it has been cultivated a long time or not. Lime is not apt to injure any soil. It is a necessity to plants; but the limit of application is established by the probable profit. Without knowing aught of the condition of your soil, we should say that seventy five or a hundred bushels of lime to the acre will benefit almost any stiff clayey loam. And we would prefer to apply it composted with vegetable mold, muck, leaves and sand. It is safe enough to apply it direct, especially to new soils; but to worn soils with the compost will be better. It is our opinion it will pay to draw it twelve miles and pay 15 cents per bushel for it, if applied on almost any soil. If our readers have had any experience to the contrary, we shall be glad to receive it.

Rural Notes and Items.

CATALOGUES, &c., RECEIVED.—1. Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, &c., from DAVID D. BUCHANAN, Supt. Reid's Nurseries, Elizabethtown, N. J.

2. VICK'S Illustrated Catalogue of Seeds, and Guide to the Flower Garden; containing accurate descriptions of the leading floral treasures of the world, with plain directions for sowing seed, transplanting and after culture. Also list of choice seeds for the vegetable garden, with instructions for culture. By JAMES VICK, Rochester, N. Y. We must say a word about this Catalogue. It is an important and valuable contribution to Floricultural literature. Here are fifty large pages packed compactly with matter, every word of which is information of use and value to the amateur florist and kitchen gardener. We do not know of any work in which the same information may be obtained. And Mr. VICK informs us that it will be mailed to any one who will send ten cents for it. It is worth ten times that sum to anybody who wants to know anything about flowers.

3. Annual Register of the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y. This institution has for its primary object the scientific and professional education of Chemists, Naturalists, Physicists, Architects, and Civil, Mechanical and Topographical Engineers; and for a secondary object, the scientific training of all others, who, not contemplating a future professional career, are desirous to avail themselves of its instruction and discipline.

SORGO SUGAR.—The Washington Republican says:—"An experiment was made in the Department of Agriculture a day or two since, before a large number of persons, clearly demonstrating the practicability of every man in the North making his own sugar. A gentleman from Nebraska, Mr. J. F. RIGGS, who is about taking out a patent for his process, was the operator. From sorgo sirup sent to the Department for exhibition, in the course of a few moments he produced a clean and pure sugar equal in all respects to the best coffee sugar, the residue of the sirup proving to be an excellent-flavored article, strongly resembling amber or golden sirup of the shops, and entirely free from sorgo taste."

We hope the above is true in its length and breadth, so far as it relates to the making sugar from the sorgo. We hope that was the Chinese Sugar Cane sirup. But we are unbelieving. If such a process has been discovered it ought never to be patented. If necessary to secure it for the public, it should be purchased by Congress pro bono publico.

ILLINOIS BEEF.—SOLON ROBINSON says:—"It is well worth the attention of all graziers to notice that Illinois furnishes New York with 50 1/2 per cent of the beef cattle. It is true that many credited to that State come from Iowa, and a few from other States; but the percentage shows the inevitable course of trade, and that New York City cannot depend upon New York State for its supply of steaks and roasts. Besides, we have no doubt that one-fourth of the number credited to N. Y. originated in some of the Western States and lived in this State only just long enough to gain a right to be called 'State stock.'"

SALT LAKE CITY SENDS FOR THE RURAL.—This morning (Feb. 1st,) among the hundreds of well filled letters we have opened, from all parts of the Union, is one containing a handsome list of subscribers and the remittance therefor, from this city of saints. Utah claims to be "loyal," and is filling up its quota for the RURAL Brigade.

THE NEW YORK STATE FAIR.—Just as we are going to press, a meeting, called by the Mayor, is being held in City Hall, to inaugurate measures necessary to secure the location of the State Fair in this city this year. It should be remembered by our readers in this State that the annual meeting of the State Society takes place at Albany the 10th inst.

HA! HA!—A certain agricultural editor, of considerable pretension, not far from New York City, gravely informs his readers that he is nearly ready to commence thrashing. But he does not tell them whether he proposes to use the old fashioned flail or employ horse-power. And he is not afraid of dogs!

Horticultural.

FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY OF WESTERN NEW YORK.

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

THIS Society met in this city the morning of the 27th of January. The attendance was large, and the proceedings interesting and harmonious. The exhibition of fruit was small—especially of apples. From the amount of this fruit exported during the past season, we were led to hope to see a large display of apples; but we were disappointed. There was a fine show of pears and grapes, of which we shall let the fruit committee speak.

President STEPHEN H. AINSWORTH called the Society to order, at eleven o'clock, Wednesday, the 27th ult. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, the Treasurer made his report, which was accepted, and other minor business transacted. The President announced the Committees on Nominations, on Business, and on Fruits. The Committee on Nominations reported the following gentlemen for officers for the ensuing year, and the report of the Committee was adopted by ballot:

President—P. BARRY. Vice Presidents—Hugh T. Brooks, Joseph Harris, W. B. Smith. Secretary—James VICK. Treasurer—W. P. Townsend. Executive Committee—J. J. Thomas, C. W. Seelye, E. Moody, E. A. Bronson, H. N. Langworthy.

The following gentlemen were appointed a Committee of Arrangements to prepare to receive the American Pomological Society here next September:—P. Barry, James VICK, H. E. Hooker, James Frost, C. W. Seelye, C. J. Ryan.

The following were appointed a Committee of Reception:—P. Barry, L. A. Ward, H. G. Warner, James M. Whitney, Geo. Ellwanger, Isaac Butts, F. Clarke.

Adjourned to 2 1/2 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The retiring President, STEPHEN H. AINSWORTH, delivered the Annual Address. We give it herewith. It will be read with interest by all of our fruit-growing readers. The figures given will attract attention. The subject of the address is:

THE GRAPE—PROFITS, VARIETIES, &c. Gentlemen of the Fruit Growers' Society of Western New York:—The subject I have selected to present to you to-day is the Grape,—profits of and best varieties for general cultivation, the best method of marketing, the cheapest and best form of trellis, planting, training, and trimming. From present prospects, this fruit will soon be extensively cultivated in Western New York. Many of its varieties are comparatively new, and not yet fully tested for general cultivation, hence practical knowledge and experience in growing them is not as general as of most other kinds of fruit.

The most interesting question to the grape-grower at this time is, "Is its cultivation for market profitable?" This great question, it seems to me, is fully and satisfactorily answered by the following figures and estimated facts, taken from the sales of last year's crop, and the expense of growing and marketing them.

ISABELLA CROPS.

Oliver S. Chapin, the Fruit King of Western New York, has 30 acres of Isabella, a mammoth apple orchard of 120 acres, and a large pear orchard. He picked from 71 acres, planted in the spring of 1859, now in full bearing, 77,862 pounds of well grown and fully ripened fruit, which he sold for \$5,185.52. The expense of growing, picking and packing was \$415. The cost of boxes, freight, selling, &c., was \$1,593.55, which leaves a net profit of \$3,176.97 from 71 acres of land. This is a net profit of \$44.88 to each acre.

Frederick B. Peck, of the same town, sold from two acres of Isabella, 7,500 pounds of good, well grown and ripened fruit, for \$675,—expense of growing, picking and marketing them was \$222,—which gives a profit, on this light crop, of \$453. This is a profit of \$226.50 to the acre. Mr. Peck says his average crop is 8,000 pounds to the acre.

Jas. C. Cross, of East Bloomfield, had from ninety-five Isabella vines, planted one rod apart, each way, 5,738 pounds of very large, carefully ripened fruit, which he sold in Utica for \$432.75. It cost him to grow and market them \$124.80. This leaves a net profit of \$307.95. At this rate an acre would be worth \$518.62, above all expenses.

John Beach, of the same place, raised from a quarter of an acre 3,000 pounds of very extra Isabella, which he sold at his house for \$160. It cost him but eleven dollars to grow them. This leaves a net profit of \$149. At this rate, the profits of an acre, at only 6c a pound, would be \$546.

Rev. Pliny F. Sanborne, of West Bloomfield, sold, from one-third of an acre, 2,600 pounds of this grape at 4c a pound, which amounts to \$104. The expense of growing them was \$82. This gives a profit, at this low price, of \$22. You will see, at this rate, that the profits of an acre would be \$249,—enough to pay for the land, vines and fixtures, twice over.

E. M. Bradley, of East Bloomfield, sold 40,364 pounds of Isabella, grown on 4 1/2 acres of land, planted with vines 1 1/2 feet apart each way, for \$4,248.50. The expense of growing and marketing them was \$1,508.08,—which gives a net profit of \$2,740.42. This gives a profit, after paying all expense of tilling, growing, picking, boxing, marketing, &c., of \$644.82 to the acre. This crop, you will perceive, was about 10,000 pounds to the acre, and was sold for about 10 1/2-c. a pound, giving a profit of 6c. a pound on the average, for the whole crop. It averaged 59 1/2 pounds of grapes to each vine, and gave a net profit of \$4.03 to each vine. Taking the above crops as a fair average of fruit to the acre, and the price as the average price that the Isabella sold for, and it will make the average profit \$432.72 to the acre.

THE CONCORD.

The Concord, from my observation and experience, will produce fully as many, if not more pounds to the acre, than the Isabella, and commands at present a higher price in market. My crop last fall yielded at home at 10 cents pounds to the acre, and sold at home at 10 cents a pound. At this rate, say it cost \$60 an acre would be worth \$1,120.—This would leave a net profit of \$1,060 an acre. This variety was sold last fall at retail in our large cities as high as three shillings a pound. At this price, this crop would be worth \$4,200.

THE DELAWARE.

The Delaware has not been fruited to any extent in Western New York, but from the small

vineyards that have just commenced bearing it promises remarkably well.
Dr. Miner, of Honeye Falls, has one-tenth of an acre, planted four years ago, that produced 600 pounds of beautiful grapes last fall, worth, in any market, at least 20c. a pound, at which sale. At this rate, the crop of an acre would bring \$1,200.

I saw in Lockport, last fall, about the same number of vines, only three years from planting, that had fully 1,000 pounds of the largest bunches and berries I ever saw of this variety. This would give a crop of 10,000 pounds to the acre, and if sold at the retail prices of last fall, would bring the before unheard of sum of \$5,000 to the acre.

These facts prove beyond all doubt, that the cultivation of the grape in Western New York is more remunerative than any other crop grown at the present time, considering the expense and labor of raising, and the quick returns for the outlay.

HOW TO PACK AND MARKET.

The best way for the grower to put up his fruit, is that by which he can realize the greatest net profit. There are two ways practiced by growers in putting up grapes for market. One is, to pack them in wooden boxes that hold about 33 pounds each. The other, and by far the best method is, in paper boxes, that hold from three to six pounds each. The grapes, before packing, should be well selected, and all the unripe and decayed berries taken out, and then nicely packed.

Messrs. Chapin and Peck tell me, that when their grapes in the small boxes sold, box and all, at 8c. a pound brought 7c. a pound. This, I find, gives a net profit of a little over one cent a pound more for those packed in small boxes, after deducting cost of box, than for those shipped in the large boxes. Twenty-four of these paper boxes are packed in a wooden case, which costs about 35c. This is the nicest, best, and most profitable way to prepare grapes for sending to market. In this form they can be easily and safely sent, by express, to fruit dealers in the larger towns and cities, in the States and Canada. These commission houses sell them at wholesale and remit the proceeds to the grower, charging, generally, ten cents on a dollar for selling. The express charges from this vicinity to New York, the greatest fruit market in America, are about one cent a pound.

STUDY THE MARKETS.

It is of the utmost importance that grape growers make themselves familiar with the markets in different sections, and also with houses dealing in fruit, to ship to, as the prices vary much at the same time, in different places. Last fall the price of the Isabella varied from 7c. to 40c. a pound, in different parts of the country, at the same time. Growers who thus inform themselves will always get the highest prices for their crops, and be very likely to make great profits, while at the same time, others not informed, will not know where, nor when to sell, nor to whom to ship, and be very likely to sell at a low price, or not at all.

VARIETIES FOR MARKET.

On selecting the kinds to grow for market, much depends upon the distance and time required to reach the intended market, and whether they are to supply the early or the late markets of the country.

Hartford Prolific.—For supplying the very early market, in the immediate vicinity of the grower, the *Hartford Prolific* is undoubtedly the best. It ripens from four to six weeks earlier than the *Isabella*, and is a good grower and bearer. Bunches and berries are of fair size. Quality, passable for a very early grape, though not good when compared with later varieties. It is very liable to drop its berries as soon as ripe, if not before, and is marketed as soon as ripe, and even when they will drop more or less of its berries. It brought last fall from 12c. to 15c. a pound in market, before the later and better varieties took its place. It will continue to pay well, till some better variety takes its place, which, I hope, will soon be, for the good of the grape buyers and consumers.

Concord.—The next best variety in time of ripening for market, and immediate family use, all things considered, is the *Concord*. This is a magnificent looking fruit, with very large bunches and berries, covered with dark-blue bloom, and of better quality than the *Isabella*. It ripens from two to four weeks earlier, is a great and constant bearer; fruit always full, fine and good. It ripens very evenly, and seldom, if ever, mildews. It excelled in magnificence and beauty all other varieties in my specimen grounds. It was certainly a grand sight to see them on the trellis, and they were universally pronounced good before the *Delaware*, *Diana* and *Rebecca* ripened.

The vine is a good grower, very hardy, and always ripens to the ends of the wood. It is little labor to trim the vines and keep them in proper shape and dimensions.

Its greatest fault is, its not being a good keeper. It must be marketed in a few weeks after it ripens, or it becomes too tender to ship any distance. Its price in market last fall, at wholesale, was from 10c to 15c a pound.

I now come, in the time of ripening, to the best of all grapes of any season, whether grown in the field, or under glass.

Delaware.—This variety is to the grape what the Seckel is to the pear, the *deus ex machina* of all varieties. For quality and delicious flavor we have nothing to compare it with. It stands at the summit of all varieties for goodness. Were it as large as the *Concord* in bunch and berry, and as good a keeper as the *Diana* and *Rebecca*, it would be all we could well ask for. But we are very glad to take it as it is, hoping some day to improve upon its size and keeping in the origin of another variety.

It ripens two weeks, or more before the *Isabella*, and is a good and very early bearer. The vine is a moderate grower, but very hardy, always ripening its wood to the last bud. I think it will stand our coldest winters.

It has fruited for two years in my glass-house. I find its quality there, better than any other variety that I grow under glass—better than the *Frontignans* or *Muscata* of Alexandria. Its quality is much better grown under glass than in the open air. I consider it a great acquisition to the varieties for house culture, notwithstanding its size. It brings the highest price of any grape in market. Its average price last fall was from 15c to 20c a pound at wholesale. I retailed at Pittsburg at 50c a pound. One acre, at this wholesale price, would be worth at least \$1,200. I am satisfied from my observation that it can be grown with profit for three cents a pound.

The fruit is always good, ripens every year, and never mildews to my knowledge, and can be grown with but little labor compared with some other varieties, now extensively cultivated. The *Diana*.—I am not able as yet, to say, from my own observation and experience, with how much profit the *Diana* can be grown, but should it always bear as well as it did with me last year, it will pay well; for the price cannot be far below that of the *Delaware*. The fruit and bunches are larger, very compact, and when fully ripe nearly as good in quality as the *Delaware*. The pulp is hard, but it has a very sprightly, delicious flavor, and is really first-rate in quality; far better than the *Isabella*, and fully as good a keeper. It can be kept through the

winter in good condition, by placing the bunches between layers of paper in boxes, and keeping them in a cool place, providing you can keep the children away from them, and do not visit them too often yourselves. This, however, will be difficult, unless your crop is sufficiently large to supply the daily wants of the family through the winter, and a plenty for your good neighbors besides. The vine is a great grower, like the *Isabella*, making large, long canes and joints. Hence, it requires a good deal of space on the trellis, and great care and judgment in training and trimming them; more, even, than any other variety that I am acquainted with. Like the *Isabella*, it needs protection in the winter. The fruit, unlike any other variety, is quite sweet and good long before it is ripe.

It flourishes well under glass, producing large berries and bunches, of really first-rate quality, nearly as good as the *Delaware*. Should it prove to be a good bearer, it will in part supercede the *Isabella*, from its superior flavor and long keeping qualities.

The Isabella.—This is now the great market grape of the Northern States. Thousands of acres are grown yearly and sent broadcast over the land, and generally sold at remunerative prices, although often, if not generally unripe, sour, and of course unhealthy.

When the *Isabella* is fully ripe it is of a very dark color, almost a jet black; then it is fair in quality, though too acid and foxy to please the taste of many. It is generally picked soon after it turns blue, long before it is ripe, and is packed and shipped in this condition, or laid by for winter use. When picked in this condition it keeps but a short time and is really worthless. But when fully ripe, it remains plump and keeps well through the winter with proper care. In most cases this fruit does not ripen oftener than one year out of three on the average; and in many localities never. There are a few favored places, and even neighborhoods, protected from the north and north-west winds, and early autumn frosts, where it generally fully ripens. It never should be planted for market only in such protected localities. Those wishing to grow grapes, who have not such protected grounds, should plant some earlier kind, like the *Concord* or *Delaware*.

The *Isabella* is a great grower, and a remarkable bearer, at times reaching 10,000 pounds to the acre. Its bunches and berries are large and handsome when well grown, and but few varieties are more attractive to the sight. It is very liable to over-bear, and generally needs thinning, say nearly one-half of its fruit. When properly thinned and trimmed, the fruit is much more likely to ripen, and is of much better quality. This fruit, like the *Baldwin* apple, will be extensively cultivated as long as it finds buyers to pay the present remunerative prices.

There are other varieties that can be grown with success and profit, but those above named I consider the most reliable in this latitude.

SOIL FOR THE GRAPE.

The best soil for the grape is a warm, deep, dry, clayey loam. It also flourishes well in sandy loam, and gravelly soil. I have seen good crops of large and well ripened fruit grown in heavy, dry clay.

The fruit of all varieties is less subject to mildew, ripens earlier, and is much better in quality grown on dry soil, than on wet or even moist soil. On wet land the tendency of the vine is to make wood. It makes long, large, spongy, immature canes, unable to endure our hard winters. Such vines bear but moderately at best, generally mildew, and never ripen their fruit, while in the same locality, vines grown on dry, warm soil, make but a moderate growth of short-jointed, well ripened wood, that stand the winter well, load heavily with fruit, seldom mildew, and fully ripen a large crop of delicious grapes; besides it is not half the work to trim and tend the vines.

If these are facts, they prove to all the necessity of selecting warm, dry soils, and well protected locations, free from frosts, in which to plant the vine for market.

PREPARING THE SOIL.

The easiest, cheapest and best method of preparing the land to plant, is to plow a furrow from ten to twelve inches deep, and follow after with the subsoil plow, breaking up the subsoil from eight to ten inches deeper. Then cross plow in like manner, and you have the soil thoroughly pulverized 20 inches deep. If the land is naturally rich, it needs no manure for the *Isabella* or *Diana*. They will make wood enough without it, and produce more and better fruit. The *Delaware* will bear higher culture, and may be manured.

HOW TO PLANT.

When the ground is prepared in this way, the best way to plant the vines is to dig the holes broad enough to straighten out the roots, and deep enough to plant them of the same depth they stood in the nursery, and then fill the holes nicely with top soil. The ground should be well tilled with the cultivator and hoe through the summer, keeping the soil loose, mellow and free from weeds, and the vines will all live and make a satisfactory growth.

HOW MANY TO THE ACRE.

The proper number to plant to the acre depends upon the manner of trellising. If they are to be staked, the vines are generally planted from four to six feet apart each way. If planted four feet apart it will take 2,722 vines to plant an acre. If planted six feet apart it requires 1,209 vines to the acre. If for post and wire trellis, they are generally planted twelve feet apart each way. This will take 302 vines to plant an acre.

I am fully satisfied from my observation and experience, that all strong-growing varieties, like the *Isabella* and *Diana*, should never be planted nearer than twelve feet, and then trained on post and wire trellis, six feet high, giving to each vine 7 1/2 feet square surface.

TRELLIS VERSUS STAKES.

This is the nearest way of training all varieties, and by far the best and cheapest.

The difference in the cost of vines and stakes to plant an acre, of trimming, training and tying up the vines, of cultivating and hoeing, will amount in the end to three or four times as much as the vines, and posts, and wire for planting and trellising an acre, and its after care. The following figures, giving the cost of each method, more than proves this statement:

It takes 2,722 stakes to stake an acre of grapes, planted four feet apart each way, which will cost at least 24 cents each. This will make the cost for stakes \$65.05. The cost of 2,722 *Isabella* vines to plant the acre at the low price of five cents each, is \$136.10—making the whole cost for vines and stakes, \$201.15. But if planted to *Delawares*—the only variety that should ever be trained on stakes—the cost would be more than \$600 to the acre. The expense of stakes and *Isabella* vines to plant an acre six feet apart each way, would be \$90.72—with *Delawares* \$398.40.

The cost of posts and wire for building the cheapest and best trellis, all things considered, that I have yet seen, was kindly furnished by my friend Oliver S. Chapin, Esq., of East Bloomfield, who has 7 1/2 acres trellised in the manner I shall describe hereafter. He purchased his wire in May, 1861. It will cost more now. It took 201 pounds of number 9 wire, which cost delivered, \$4.92 per 100; and 100 pounds of number 12 wire, which cost \$5.22 per 100, and 157 pounds

of number 18 wire, which cost \$6.76 per 100. This makes the expense of wire to trellis an acre \$35.03. Cost of 75 cedar posts 10 feet long and from 7 to 8 inches through, at 12 1/2 cts. each, \$9.38. Also 70 stakes to rest the top wire on, 6 feet long, at 24 cents each, \$1.76, which makes the cost of material to build the trellis \$56.16. Add to this the cost of 302 *Isabella* vines at 5c. each, \$15.10, and it makes the whole expense for planting and trellising one acre \$50.26; which is \$40.46 less than the stakes and vines for an acre planted 6 feet apart, and \$153.89 less than those planted 4 feet apart. If planted to *Delawares*, the expense in the first case is \$267.64 less, and in the other \$753.89 less.

This difference in the cost of the two ways of planting, makes it very evident, that unless there can be a much larger and better crop of fruit grown to the acre on stakes, 4 or 6 feet apart, than on trellises 12 feet apart, trellising is by far the best method of the two. Facts I believe will fully warrant me in saying, that generally, larger and better crops are grown on trellises than on stakes.

Mr. Chapin's crop last fall averaged a little over 10,170 pounds actual weight to the acre. The bunches and berries were large, compact and fully ripened. I saw some of them in December, in the picking boxes, just as they were picked from the vines. These had not shriveled a particle, were as full and as perfect as on the day they were picked, and were the best *Isabella* I ever tasted. Now, gentlemen, are any of you ever seen or heard of so large a crop of perfect, well ripened fruit being grown upon stakes, at any distance apart? Only think, five tons to the acre!—which sold for \$414.38 net profit, with an outlay of only \$50.26 for trellis and vines!

No. 9 wire measures 18 feet to the pound. No. 12, 36 feet to the pound; thus doubling its length with the increase of every three numbers in size. So that any one can calculate the number of pounds wanted to trellis any given piece of ground.

HOW TO MAKE TRELLIS.

Mr. Chapin's trellises, before referred to, were made as follows:—The large posts are set 48 feet apart, through the field, or between every fourth vine, at least 3 1/2 feet deep, as the strain upon them in high wind is great. The two end posts should be set 4 feet deep, and be of large size, and well braced, to prevent their giving any to the great strain of the wires upon them. After the posts are set nicely in line, in the rows, take a coil of number 12 wire, of first quality, well annealed, and wind one end of the wire twice or more round the end post one foot above the ground and fasten it securely. Then unroll the coil through the field, and cut the wire long enough to wind round the last post, and fasten after it is tightened up. This is for the lower wire on the trellis. Go through the field in like manner. Then take a coil of No. 9 wire and wind the end 5 or 6 times round the end post 6 feet above the ground, and then unroll through the field as before, and cut it long enough to wind 5 or 6 times round the end post, after being tightened up. This is for the upper wire in the trellis. The wires are laid in this way to all the trellises in the field. Notches are to be cut in all the center posts, with a very wide set saw, one foot, and 6 feet above the ground, for the lower, and upper wires. The next thing to be done is to draw up the wires very tightly, and place them in the notches in the center posts. It requires a good deal of power to do it, say 2,000 pounds draw to each wire to make it sufficiently tight.

Mr. Chapin does it with a lever ingeniously contrived, though simple, a vice and two chains. The lever is about 12 feet long, with a nib of iron 3 feet from the further end, to place against the center of the post to keep it from slipping, with 3 hooks in the lever, on each side of the nib, about one foot apart. The vice is a small one, with a ring at the end, to hold the chains. The chains are large, straight linked, trace chains, 10 feet long. The vice is screwed tight on to the wire, the length of the chains from the post. The lever is placed against the back side of the end post, and the further end of the lever is swung round towards the wire, and one of the chains is hooked on to the further hook in the lever. Then the front end of the lever is carried round towards the wire, this draws up the wire 3 or 4 feet towards the post. Then hook the other chain on one of the hooks in the lever on the other side of the post, and carry the lever back again, this gives 3 feet slack to the first chain, and draws up the wire 3 feet more; hook up the first chain again tightly, and swing the lever round toward the vice again, and hook up the second chain, and so on till the wire is sufficiently tight. The end of the wire is then wound round the end post 5 or 6 times and fastened; all the wires are drawn up in like manner. This machine does the work quickly and easily, and will draw the wires on a trellis 100 rods long sufficiently tight.

A stake 6 feet long with a notch in the top, is set on the ground between each of the posts, and the upper wire put in the notch; this keeps the upper wire 6 feet above the ground, its entire length. Next take the number 18 wire and run it from the lower to the upper wire, once in 2 feet, the whole length of the trellis. These upright wires are to tie the vines to in training them. Mr. Chapin says he finds by experience, that it would be better, and cheaper in the end, to place the upright wires only one foot apart, so as to have one to train the bearing wood, and one to train the vine to for the next year's fruiting. This keeps the new canes, each year, separate, and between the bearing wood. This will increase the expense of the trellis \$10.61 an acre, making the whole cost of the trellis \$45.77. Instead of these upright wires, two more No. 12 wires can be placed equidistant between the upper and lower wire. Making the cost of the trellis in this form \$34.09 an acre. This is \$10.76 cheaper than the other form of trellis. Experience will determine which of the two ways is the better one. Mr. Chapin is fully satisfied, from his experience, that his manner is by far the best, and in the end much the cheapest. His plan certainly involves much less labor in tying up the vines, training, and laying them down in the fall, and putting them up in the spring.

LAYING DOWN THE VINES.

To lay them down, the top wire is unwound from the end posts, and taken from the notches in the center posts, but not from the stakes, this swings the upper wire, upright wires and vines, over to the ground, the whole length of the trellis. The weight of the wires hold down the vines. The lower wire, and base vines remain on the trellis. The vines should be well trimmed before they are laid down. In this way it is but little work to lay them down or to put them up in the spring. The other form of trellis cannot be laid down in this way. They are taken from the trellis at the time of trimming, in the fall, and laid down on the ground, and ends covered with dirt, or boards, and then tied again to the wires in the spring.

CULTURE.

The year the vines are set out, the land should be planted with some low crop, if planted at all, and well tilled through the summer. But one vine should be allowed to grow from each root. This vine receiving the whole force of the root, will be large and strong in the fall. The last of November, it should be cut back to about one foot above the ground, the height of the lower wire on the trellis, that is to

be. The joints will be very short on the vine near its base, and the buds very close to each other, so that the buds will be nearly opposite to each other, a foot above the ground, from which the horizontal vines will grow the next year.

The vines should be covered with dirt at the time of shortening and uncovered in the spring. The trellis should be built in the spring of the second year, before the vines make much growth. But two buds should be allowed to grow, and those from as near the lower wire as possible. All below should be rubbed off through the summer.

MODES OF TRAINING.

These two vines are trained each way on the lower wire, and tied to it, from time to time, as they increase in length. After reaching 6 feet, the distance given to each vine on the trellis, it should be turned up, and trained to one of the upright wires. All the laterals should be pinched off beyond the second leaf. If the land is in good condition, and well tilled; and vines well cared for, the canes will be as large as a man's finger in the fall, and the vines able to mature a moderate crop of fruit the next year. The last of November these vines should be cut back to the lower wire, and the vines left on the trellis for winter.

In the spring of the third year, one or more vines will start from each of the joints, in the base vines. Enough of these should be allowed to grow to fill the trellis, say one foot apart, and all the rest rubbed off. These are tied from time to time to the upright wires through the summer, and the laterals pinched off beyond the second leaf. From two to four bunches of fruit will set on each of these upright vines; but two of the best should be allowed to grow. The rest should be pinched off when in blossom. The laterals should be pinched off at the same time; this causes the fruit to set full, and makes the bunches large and compact. The ground must be well tilled, and every thing done at the right time through the summer. This will insure a small crop of about six pounds of superb fruit to each vine.

WHEN TO PICK.

If *Isabella*s, be sure to let them hang on the vines till fully ripe, which will be toward the last of October. Pick them when dry and lay them in boxes holding about one bushel each, made of lath, open on the bottom and sides. These boxes are placed in a safe, dry place, where the air can freely circulate through the fruit. As soon as the stems are dry, they are ready for market. They should then be looked over, packed in paper boxes, and shipped to market as before described. Fruit grown, picked and packed in this way, will always command the highest price in market, and pay the grower a great profit.

PRUNING FOR NEXT YEAR'S CROP.

The last of November, the vines are pruned for the next year's crop. To do this properly, every other upright is cut back to one bud above the base vine; and the others at the top wire of the trellis, if strong enough; if not, shorten in proportion to their size, and cut all the laterals close to the uprights. These are the bearing canes for next year's crop. The trellis and vines should be laid down, and put up in the spring, as before described.

FIRST PRUNING THE FOURTH YEAR.

The first pruning the fourth year should be at the time the fruit is in bloom. Then all the laterals should be pinched off, at the third leaf beyond the further bunch of fruit. One vine only must be allowed to grow from each of the spurs on the base vine. All the others should be rubbed off. The fruit must be thinned to two bunches on each lateral. This will make all the fruit the vine should be allowed to bear this year. These new canes for next year's planting must be tied up to the upright wires from time to time, till they reach the top of the trellis, and the laterals shortened, as before described. The laterals on the bearing canes may want shortening once or twice more during the summer, if inclined to make too much growth.

TO GET WELL-RIPENED FRUIT.

Two things must always be well considered, and nicely adjusted, to insure a good crop of well-ripened fruit. The first is, to leave just as much fruit on the vines as they will develop to large, compact bunches, fully ripened. The other is, to so trim the vines, and at the proper time, as to fully set the fruit, make the bunches and berries large, and fully ripen the whole crop. If too much fruit is left on the vines, and they are too closely trimmed, the fruit cannot fully mature, because there is not foliage enough left on the vines to ripen it. On the other hand, if the vines are not trimmed at all, the berries mostly drop off, leaving the bunches small, and loose, and but little fruit on the vines, and that quite poor and uneven. I have grown, and have seen in other grounds, the best fruit on vines trimmed as here described.

The crop this year will amount to from 15 to 20 pounds to the vine, or from 4,000 to 6,000 pounds to the acre. In trimming the vines this fall, the bearing canes must be cut back to near the base vines, and the new canes, for bearing next year, at the top of the trellis, and all the laterals close, and the vines laid down for the winter, as before.

The trimming, and renewal for bearing wood, should be the same for the fifth year, and each year thereafter, as described for the fourth year. The fifth year the vines, will be in full bearing, and will produce, if rightly tilled, thinned and pruned, from 7,000 to 10,000 pounds of large, handsome, well-ripened fruit to the acre, worth to the grower from \$300 to \$1,200, according to variety and demand.

Horticultural Notes.

REPORT OF FRUIT GROWERS' SOCIETY.—We have made a full report of the interesting discussions of this Society, which will appear as we can find room.

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.—At this season of the year there is great activity among these Societies. Their discussions and papers are voluminous and valuable. We are glad to receive them, and our readers shall profit thereby.

MISSOURI AND ILLINOIS HORTICULTURAL IMPORTING ASSOCIATION.—Such is the name of a new organization recently effected at St. Louis with the object of importing such fruit and ornamental trees, plants, stocks and bulbs as may be ordered by its members. Its officers are: President—E. S. HULL, Alton, Ill. Treas.—H. J. Mudd, St. Louis, Mo. Sec.—W. C. FLAGG, Alton, Ill.

THE FRUIT BUDS.—Great interest is felt in these germs of promise. Our friends hereabout assert that about half the peaches are dead. From Michigan we have conflicting reports. It is asserted that the fruit on the Western shore is all dead; and again that it is "all right." Will not our friends there report. From Egypt—South Illinois—we have a report that the fruit is not only killed, but the trees are badly injured—some of them frozen outright. From Ohio the reports are discouraging. We have nothing from the South-east. We shall be glad to receive any information our correspondents can give concerning the condition of the buds.

Domestic Economy.

A SOAP CHAPTER.

EDS. RURAL.—Will you please publish the enclosed recipes, and oblige one who hates a humbug. They are sold through the country for five dollars:

TO MAKE WASHING SOAP.—One gallon soft water; 2 lbs. hard soap, made of palm or olive oil and soda ash; 4 oz. sal soda; 2 oz. borax. Put all in a clean kettle, bring to a gentle boiling, and in ten minutes put in three tablespoonfuls of burning fluid and two of hartshorn. Simmer till well blended, then pour off.

TO MAKE TOILET OR SHAVING SOAP.—One gallon water; 4 lbs. hard soap, as above; 2 oz. borax; 2 oz. sal soda. Color with a teaspoonful of Chinese vermilion, dissolved in two tablespoonfuls of warm water. Strain through the mould, while warm, stirring in flavoring, also, at the same time.

TO MAKE TRANSPARENT SOAP.—Shave very fine the soap used. Use the same soaps as above.—Colgate & Co.'s Opodeldoc soap for the white, and common bar and chemical soap for the fine transparent. Put best alcohol in a vessel deep enough to be safe on the stove. When it begins to simmer, put in the soap shavings; 1 lb. of soap to 1 pint of alcohol, is all the soap the alcohol will cut; pour off as soon as dissolved. Keep from fire. If it should take fire, smother out.

TO MAKE HONEY SOAP.—Shave and dissolve two pounds of yellow soap in a vessel suspended in boiling water. Then add one-quarter pound each of strained honey and palm oil, and three cents worth of the oil of cinnamon. Useable when cold.

TO MAKE ONE BARREL OF SOFT SOAP INTO TWO.—Put one barrel of soft water to a barrel of soap; add five lbs. sal soda, a half-pint of hartshorn, and a half-pint of burning fluid. Green soaps must be kept from freezing; if frozen, melt over.

Now I submit, Mr. MOORE, that men that can sell these recipes for from \$2.50 to \$5.00, can make one barrel of soft soap into two, of every soapy customer they meet.
Yours, truly,
JOHN JONES.
Buffalo, N. Y., 1864.

AN EXCELLENT WAY TO CLEAN SILK.—Put just enough alcohol in a dish to wet a breadth of silk; rub the spots first, then put the breadth of silk in the alcohol, and rub all evenly; then rinse it, in clear rain water, holding it at one end. Do not squeeze the silk after it is rinsed, but pin it to the line at one end, and let it hang until nearly dry. Then take it down and iron it, and it will look nearly as good as new. If the silk or ribbon is light, and figured or plaid, you must rinse it in alcohol, as the water will cause the colors to run. A quart of alcohol is sufficient to cleanse a dress. If light and figured, it will take some more.—E. M., Wayne, N. Y., 1864.

COOKIES.—The following recipe I know to be good, economical, and sick ones have eaten them without injury.—One coffee cup of sugar, half teacup of butter, one teacup of very sour, thin yeast, (Graham or buckwheat will do, if thin,) one teaspoonful of best saleratus, a little salt; stiffen with wheat flour, season with nutmeg. Roll out and bake very quick, in a very hot oven. These cookies have been much praised by those who little thought they were eating anything so cheap, and have been frequently asked for in winter, when eggs are so scarce. Sour buttermilk is just as good, when it can be obtained.—DORA DORRINGS.

OMELET.—Break three fresh eggs into a bowl, add a little of salt, a teaspoonful of water, and beat the eggs thoroughly. Then put a tablespoonful of good butter into a flat frying pan, and hold the pan over the fire with the handle a little elevated, so as to incline the bottom at a small angle.

As soon as the pan is warm pour in the eggs, and as the mass begins to cook, run a case knife under it to keep it from burning to the pan. As soon as the surface is about dry, fold one-half of the omelet over the other, and it is ready to serve.—MRS. S. A. DAVIDSON.

TO KEEP BEEF FRESH FOR ROAST OR STEAK ALL WINTER.—To make a brine for fifty pounds beef, use five pounds of salt and three pints of molasses.—M. L. C.

Inquiries and Answers.

TO COLOR BLACK.—Will you inform me through the columns of your paper how to color a good black—one that will not fade?—H. S., Newton Falls, O.

TO DYE YARN SCARLET.—"Daisy" gives, in a late RURAL, a recipe to dye yarn scarlet. I would like to ask her, through the RURAL, how much yarn the given quantities will color, when it will be put in the dye, and should it be wet or dry?—If wet, in soda or clear water? If she will answer, it will greatly oblige—A READER.

FURS, COLORING, &c.—I have some furs which are very nice, but lighter colored than I like. I thought you, if any one, could inform me where I could have them colored, and made over in fashionable style. If possible, as now is the time I need them; by so doing you will oblige—A SUBSCRIBER, Pavilion, N. Y.

Almost any fur dealer has facilities for doing this work. Try GEO. CLARK, No. 17 State St., Rochester.

[SPECIAL NOTICE.]

WHAT THE MERCHANTS SAY.—The merchants everywhere who sell De Land's Chemical Saleratus say that no article ever sold gives such universal satisfaction to customers. They like to have customers pleased—especially the ladies. They know it is the "Housewives' Favorite"—that Chemical Saleratus.

Ladies' Department.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

LINES TO AN ABSENT FRIEND.

Forth into the waving woodland
Wandered I one summer day;
Down beside the sun-lit waters
Where the winsome wavelets play,
Thinking, oh, so sadly thinking,
As I watched the laughing stream,
Leaping up to catch the tresses
Of a golden-haired sunbeam;
Of the life-waves that must roll,
Of the dreaming and the waking,
Of the gladness and the aching,
E'er thine hand in mine own taking
I can greet thee as of old.

Long I sat thus sadly musing,
When upon my dreaming stole
Softest waves of sweetest music
Filling, thrilling all my soul;
And behold! a shining seraph,
Clad in robes of radiance bright,
With a harp heav'n-tuned and golden,
Stood in clouds of sil'ry light
Just my 'wildered gaze above;
And in tones like music floating
Were these words unto me spoken,
As she smiled assuring token,
"Ask a boon for her you love."

Thought I then of wealth and station,
Of a proud and queenly name,
Of a life of high ambition,
Of the "laurel-wreath" of fame.
But as each came up before me
Banished were they in disgrace,
All unworthy the pure friendship
That wouldst last blessings place
Whereso'er the feet should roam,
Thus away from each one turning,
Ever some defect discerning,
Came at length the soul's deep yearning,
"Grant that Heaven may be her home."

Lakeville, N. Y., 1864.

GRNEYRA.

DON'T ABANDON THE HOOP SKIRT.

THIS is the burthen of a *man-ifesto* from the Editor of the *Scalpel*. But "there's no use o' talking!" A certain goddess has decreed that skirts shall be smaller, and they will be smaller, if she had said, "let there be none at all," we are confident they would have been abandoned. But the Editor of the *Scalpel* is in distress; listen to him:

"We consider the modern hooped skirt one of the most admirably artistic and health-giving devices of our time; and no sensible person can fail to appreciate its benefit to the young girl or woman; we will give our reasons for this opinion; of course they will be entirely professional, for we are no man milliner.

"It is conceded by all correct observers, and fully recognized by our anatomists and gymnastic teachers, that the muscles of the thorax and its appendages, the arms and abdomen, are not used more than one-fourth as much by our modern women as they are compelled to use those of the legs; nearly all the movements which our unfortunate young people are permitted to perform by the inexorable fiat of of Japonicadom are what may be called passive. Her hands must be reverently and lovingly folded across her chest in order that their whiteness may not suffer by permitting the least motion; the lungs, of course, must be kept quiet, not only because she is not allowed to walk fast enough to require much air, but because the position of the arms, and weight of the fore-arm and hand resting upon the lower ribs, will not allow their elevation so that the air can enter the lower part of the lungs at all. At best, but a sixth part of those life-giving organs are used, and only their upper part fully inflated. Now if the hooped skirt be hooked to the jacket in four places, at least, and not left to rest upon the hips, the reader will perceive that the backbone and all the muscles which inclose and steady both the great cavities of the body, and keep them elegantly erect upon the hips, must carry both the hoops and the skirt; then these may be made both light and elegant, or heavy and grand as the seasons may require; while drawers of material adapted to our severe winters, may be so artistically adjusted, and supported by suspenders, as completely to protect and clothe the limbs, without the necessity of the skirts so girding the body by drawn cords to keep them and the drawers in place, as not only seriously to cripple all the viscera, but to interrupt the healthful action of the muscles of the abdomen, and worse than this, to compress all the veins that carry back the blood from the lower limbs to the heart for purification, and often, as we have seen, to render the integument, below this girdle of many cords, very perceptibly dropsical. Every lady, if she will use her eyes, can see this for herself; the 'horrid marks' that they cause, she often laments. Now, reader, if the lungs are only used one-sixth part, the muscles of the body scarcely at all, and the venous blood from the lower limbs, prevented from returning at the full rate of five-sixths of the speed intended by nature, when you are walking even at the small's pace you are allowed to, what must be the result on the nutrition of the muscles of these limbs? for you know they act and grow by blood alone; depend upon it, though you may make them dropsical and deceptive in size, they will not help you to dance as well, or to go up and down stairs.

"And this brings us to another great evil, if we will sacrifice so much to brown-stone fronts and the fancied necessity of fashionable streets; if we must live in houses furnace-warmed and eighteen feet by five stories high, for pity's sake let us so distribute the load of dress our climate requires, as to allow every part of the body to be used to carry it up stairs; let the jacket or the shoulder-straps give the chest its share of the work; in a word, let our wives and daughters shoulder their loads, if they would have their days prolonged in the land.

"If the ladies will pardon us, we will venture a hint on the dimensions of the skirt. Its most excellent end is to insure the unrestricted use of the limbs in walking; it must, therefore, be of sufficient diameter to allow a full step and the necessary space for the underclothing; if it restrict the step in the least degree, it is too small. No woman should be ambitious of a short step; the longer the step the more breadth required, and the greater development of the thorax and lungs; quick and energetic walking, with the shoulders thrown back, will do as much for the growth of the vital organs as singing. Women must dress warmly, keep her feet dry, walk more, and eat more, or she will never fulfill the great object of her creation."

FASHIONABLE WOMEN.

FASHION kills more women than toil and sorrow. Obedience to fashion is a greater transgression of the laws of woman's nature, a greater injury to her physical and mental constitution, than the hardships of poverty and neglect. The slave woman at her task will live and grow old, and see two or three generations of her mistresses fade and pass away. The washer-woman, with scarce a ray of hope to cheer her in her toils, will live to see her fashionable sisters all die around her. The kitchen maid is hearty and strong, when her lady has to be nursed like a sick baby.

It is a sad truth that fashion-pampered women are almost worthless for all the good ends of human life. They have but little force of character; they have still less power of moral will, and quite as little physical energy. They live for no great purpose in life; they accomplish no worthy ones. They are only doll-forms in the hands of milliners and servants, to be dressed and fed to order. They dress nobody; they feed nobody; they instruct nobody; they bless nobody. They write no books; they set no rich examples of virtue and womanly life. If they rear children, servants and nurses do all, save to conceive and give them birth. And when reared, what are they? What do they ever amount to but weaker scions of the old stock? Who ever heard of a fashionable woman's child exhibiting any virtue and power of mind for which it became eminent? Read the biographies of our great and good men and women. Not one of them had a fashionable mother. They nearly all sprang from strong-minded women, who had as little to do with fashion as with the changing clouds.

DIRECTIONS TO LADY SKATERS.

THE following timely advice from an enthusiastic skater with a poetic turn of mind, will be appreciated by the lady readers of the RURAL:

Is any one disposed to learn
This art for which so many yearn?
Stand up erect; the ankles stiffen;
Surcease your clanging, screaming, laughing,
And with a proud, defiant air,
Strike boldly out—now here—now there—
Right, left, right, left—but not so wide!
Now stand erect and swiftly glide,
And, without aid of friend or lover,
Your equilibrium recover.
Now, try again; now! this way—that way—
This way—that way—this way—that way!
Let the arms swing free and easy;
Never mind the air so breezy;
In its breath is health and life,
In your form the future wife
Of some delighted, handsome beau,
Watching you as swift you go
Over the ice, a very queen
Of grace and beauty. But I warn
That now and then you'll get a fall—
Hoops, balmarol, head, feet and all,
In quite an interesting "muss."
But never mind! don't make a fuss!
E'en though you hear from two or three—
"How very cold the ice must be!"

RIDICULE AND REPARTEE.

THE fatal fondness for indulging in a spirit of ridicule, and the injurious and irreparable consequences which sometimes attend the too prompt reply, can never be too seriously or severely condemned. Not to offend, is the first step towards pleasing. To give pain, is as much an offence against humanity, as against good breeding; and surely it is as well to abstain from an action because it is sinful, as because it is impolitic. A man of sense and breeding will sometimes join in the laugh which has been raised at his expense by an ill-natured repartee; but if it is very cutting, and one of those shocking sort of truths, which, as they can scarcely be pardoned in private, ought never to be uttered in public, he does not laugh because he is pleased, but because he wishes to conceal how much he is hurt.

As the sarcasm was uttered by a lady, so far from seeming to resent it, he will be the first to commend it; but, notwithstanding that, he will remember it as a trait of malice, when the whole company shall have forgotten it as a stroke of wit. Women are so far from being privileged by their sex to say unkind or cruel things, that it is this very circumstance which renders them more intolerable. When the arrow is lodged in the heart, it is no relief for him that is wounded to reflect that the hand that shot it was a fair one.—*Hannah More.*

CHILDHOOD is like a mirror, catching and reflecting images from all around. Remember that an impious or profane thought, uttered by a parent's lips, may operate upon the young heart like a careless spray of water thrown upon polished steel, staining it with rust which no scouring can efface.

VIRTUE cannot be wrinkled and sad; Virtue is a joy of the right, added to our earliest joy—its refreshment and health, not fever.

Choice Miscellany.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

"WHAT I GAVE."

BY ALLEN DE LEE.

O, God, but to hear the young voices,
King out in our home as of old!
Forgive those who murmur before thee,
And miss but the clink of their gold.

I have been adown to the village,
The village that sprang like a gourd,
On the fair green slopes of the river;
I listened awhile to its lord.

He'd opened his coffers so freely,
Responsive at once to the call
Of the country. Had poured out his treasure
And, what seemed harder than all,

They'd taxed all his broad rolling acres—
Had levied on flock and on herd.
Then, through the deep silence that followed
There fell not an answering word.

As if 'twere in awe of his greatness,
He counted the silence of mine.
I checked on my lips the proud answer;
I thought of the pearls and the swine.

He'd trample my off'ring in scorn,
My soul's hidden treasure to earth;
O, hearts that hold such in your keeping
Ye'll estimate truly its worth.

I have wealth in th' blood of the pilgrims
That flows through these toil swollen veins;
I have wealth in hands proudly lifted
That never have worn any stains.

Only thee! All the rest of my treasure
My country was given to thee!
Refill, if you can, the deep coffers,
Of hearts that have given so free!

Thou knowest, O God of the battle,
My lips with their anguish were dumb,
As they read death softly had darken'd,
The eyes of my beautiful one.

My youngest with eyes like his mother's—
She died when this youngest was born—
His hair touched with just the soft golden
That glints on the silk of the corn.

My soul's broken tendrils reached upward,
Clinging nearer and nearer to Him,
Who marched by the side of my ALLEN,
Who wept when his young eyes grew dim.

A stranger hand traced the last tidings—
God had broken the staff of my age;
I bowed like a tree in the forest
Swept down by the tempest's wild rage.

O, God, but to hear the young voices
Ring out in our home as of old!
Forgive those who murmur before Thee,
And miss but the clink of their gold!

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

MR. GREAT HEART.

I HAVE an acquaintance by the name of GREAT HEART who may be a descendant of the one mentioned in the Pilgrim's Progress. He has inherited some rare qualities from somebody, at all events. He seems to have an impediment in his speech, which prevents his doing his great heart justice, and wisely, therefore, he does not attempt that for which he was not designed, but contents himself with noble deeds. Some of his friends, if they have a feeling or a sentiment, can talk about it and make the most of it, making themselves appear vastly better than the truth would warrant, while Mr. GREAT HEART cannot speak his sympathy for the afflicted, but stands with his hands in his pocket, ready to bestow what is needed, or do whatever else may be required, while his neighbor does the elocution. Neither does he make any uncharitable remarks about Mr. TALKATIVE'S standing around the shop-doors, and telling how sorry he is for his neighbor who has just been burned out, while he himself is circulating a petition in his behalf, besides contributing generously to the same cause. If any one else should speak of it, he would say, "O, you know that some one has got to do the talking."

He has a kind word for every one he meets, especially the children. If he overtakes a child going to school he will invite them to ride, and seems to think the obligation is all on his side when they do so. He always gives toward the establishment of circulating libraries, and anything else which promises to benefit the public, and provides for his own family not only the comforts of life, but all the good reading and intellectual pleasure that his means allow. And although his mode of proceeding will probably keep him a poor man, as the world goes, yet we may rest assured that his life is none the less full and happy for that, and when he dies he will be sadly missed from his place. B. C. D. Elkhorh, Wis., 1864.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

HAPPINESS.

"Is solid happiness we prize,
Within our breast the jewel lies,
Nor need we roam abroad."

MANKIND almost universally "roam abroad" for that happiness, which, if it is enjoyed at all, must be found at home; must spring up within their own minds and hearts. They place too great a reliance on circumstances. They imagine that, if this and that change could be effected, if such and such impediments could be removed, and such and such conveniences secured, then they would be happy. Almost all of us are inclined to think that, when we are restless and unsatisfied, we need only different circumstances to make us happy. In our day-dreams we fancy a lot in which it seems to us we could not be otherwise. Now, the real truth is, and all experience is teaching the lesson, our happiness depends but very little upon circumstances. He who is wretched in one condition, is very likely to be so in any other. Even though all our air-castles could become

realities, and our cherished imaginings fulfilled, we should not necessarily be any happier than before. No one can be happy who has not the source and spring of happiness within himself. Let him have "all that heart can wish," let the whole earth be drained to meet his wants, and it would not be enough; he would thirst and hunger still, and crave a good unfound. St. Charles, Ill., 1864. MARTHA.

SENSE.

SENSE is a tangle of contradiction. The boy throws wood on water, and it floats; then he throws in his new knife, and it sinks. How was he to know that the same force would lift a stick and swallow a knife? He throws a feather after his knife, and away it swims on the wind. That is another brook then, in which the feather is a stick, and the stick a stone. Not only are results of a single law opposed, but the law pulls one this way, one that, as gravitation contends with currents of water and air. If we could be shut in sense and surface, Nature would seem a game of cross-purposes, every creature devouring another. The beast eats plant and beast; he dies, and the plant eats him again; fire, water and frost, in their old quarrel, destroy whatever they build; the night eats the day, summer the snow, and winter the green. Change is a revolving wheel, in which so many spokes rise, so many fall, a motion returning into itself. Nature is a circle, but man a spiral. No wonder he is dissatisfied with his longing to get on. Eating and hunger, labor and rest, gathering and spending, there is no gain. Life is consumed in getting a living. After laborious years our money is ready in bank, but the man who was to enjoy it is gone from enjoyment, shriveled with care, every appetite dried up. So learning devastates the scholar, is another plague of wealth, and our goodness turns out to be a hasty mistake.—*Holmes, in Atlantic Monthly.*

BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS.

AMERICAN sunsets have become proverbial among travelers for their wonderful beauty and glory. No one who has ever seen a sunset on the prairies will ever wish the picture effaced. And it seems in New York beautiful sunsets have been observed, for the *New York Evening Post* says:

The present season, in this part of the country at least, has been remarkable for the beauty of its sunsets. These have been generally almost cloudless, like the sunset in Italy and in the Levant, with an amber-color or orange light flushing the whole sky and streaming into every nook and recess open to the air, scarcely casting any shadow, or casting but a faint and undefined one, from the objects on which it falls. The most beautiful sunsets in our climate—and exceedingly beautiful they are—have generally been those in which the clouds have been the most conspicuous accessories, curtaining the declining sun with their pomp of colors, purple, crimson, orange and gold, and their almost metallic brilliancy and glitter. Just now, however, up to the time of the late storm—we have had a succession of sunsets often without a single defined cloud in the sky, as if these meteors had been bidden to withdraw for a season, in order to exhibit to our eyes some of the phenomena presented by the most beautiful climates of the old world.

SALA ON OUR CONGRESS.

GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA is the English correspondent of a London paper. In it he describes the opening of the present session of Congress. From his allusion to the stories, common in England, of the daily rows supposed to take place in our Congressional halls, we infer that he did not see what he expected to see, and are glad that he is honest enough to say so. He says:

"There was no blasting of trumpets, no bowing and scraping of court-creatures stuck all over with gold lace; no dangling of ribbons, no glittering of stars; nor was there any unseemly helter-skelter rush of members of one House to the other to hear a speech read. To me the spectacle was tame. When the rowdiness is to begin—if it to begin it is destined—when the members are set to abusing or cowering one another, or exchanging imputations of cowardice, mendacity, fraud, and drunkenness, I do not know. Everything which I beheld appeared to me thoroughly modest, simple and noble—the free citizens of a great commonwealth setting about the task of governing themselves, and doing it sensibly and well."

ABSTRACTION OF SORROW.

AND she forgot the stars, the moon and sun,
And she forgot the blue above the trees,
And she forgot the dells where waters run,
And she forgot the chilly autumn breeze;
She had no knowledge when the day was done,
And the new morn she saw not: but in peace
Hung over sweet Basil evermore,
And molten'd with tears unto the core. [Keats.]

WHEN IS A MAN ORIGINAL?—We say a man is original, if he lives at first, and not at second hand,—if he requires a new tombstone,—if he takes law, not from the many, nor the few, but from the sky,—if he is no subordinate, but an authority,—if he does not borrow judgment, but is judgment. Such a man is singular in his attitude only because we have so fallen from purity. He, not the fashion, is *comme il faut*. By every word and act, he declares that as he is so all men must shortly be.

EVERY wise word is an echo of the wisdom inarticulate in our neighbors which sends them confident about their work and play.

Sabbath Musings.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

THE SKEPTIC'S DAUGHTER.

BY BELL CLINTON.

A FAIR young girl lay dying. On her brow
The pale death-shadows played, and from her eye
Uncertainly brilliance gleamed,—and truly now
It speaks,—the soul's dread parting must be nigh.
Breathlessly silent all, save when the sigh
From stricken hearts goes out upon the air,
That she, their cherished, must so early die,
When life is beaming o'er her bright and fair,
And the glad heart hath known no grief, or care.

The sunlight rests upon the blighted flower,
As tho' to mock the shadows of decay,
The breeze that passes through the trellised bower,
Murmurs, the beautiful must pass away
As shadowy mists at the approach of day.
They gather round her. He, the kindly sire
Whom fear in battles dire could not dismay,
Weeps, that the star of Hope may not rise higher
Ere its pure light be quenched, and it expire.

She look'd upon him, he was ever kind,
And round him did her heart's affections twine;
His love was weak to save, and so she spake—
"Dear father! shall my mother's faith be mine
At this dread hour, or shall I rest on thine?"
Then on his heart Truth rested with heavy tide
And skepticism's fabrics swept away.
He could not turn its heave waves aside,
And thus he to the dying girl replied:—

He thus replied,—while yet that holy spell
Was on his heart, and bound him 'neath its sway,
(While one by one his own false structures fell)
With deep, emphatic tone, it bade him say
"Your mother's faith! it is the true, divine,
Your mother's, child, your mother's! not on mine."
—"Twere well; for at the hour of closing day
The soul of 'ALLEN'S' daughter passed away.
Chenango Co., N. Y., 1864.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

RESURRECTION.

IT is a theme upon which the public teacher should much dwell. It has consolation for the heart in bereavement, to strengthen it to bear its burden of sorrow. All earthly calamities have not power to cause the anguish which the heart feels that mourns for the departed object of its last love. Imagine a mother bending over the lifeless form of her child, without any knowledge of the way by which the dust committed to dust will be reinvigorated with life, and the loved one be given back again. There would often be nothing to save the loving heart from the pangs of despair if it were not taught that it may have a restoration to that from which it has been torn.

"Why are we born to die?" exclaimed a mother, passionately, as she looked upon her failing child. A response comes from a broken law. "Death came by sin." Sin caused the sentence of death to be given forth, and opened the flood-gates of misery upon mankind. There may be comparatively little outward indication of the inner grief, but there is no possible expression for the dark pressure of speechless agony in the soul, when one most dear has been taken by death from the desolate home and heart. But a triumphant thought may rise above these reflections, even amid the grief of loss; for GOD has appeared in behalf of his creatures in the person of his Son. The power of death is broken, so that the grave itself becomes bright to faith as the portal to a better life. The earth is full of hints towards a resurrection. It sends out its brightest flowers above the dust of those who have perished from our sight. Giving our bodies to the grave is but planting the seed which shall spring up in the light of the future to bear the fruit of a life of glorious everlastingness! Were there no resurrection, the insensate dust might well join in a universal wail over the multitudes nourished on earth's bosom but to perish. But every flower and living thing of the summer-time reaches forth with its prophecy to the possibility of a new life. GOD shall reveal himself, when misery shall flee away and sin hide itself, while gladness shall appear for the righteous to be forever!

O, heart, heart that is pained and anxious, there shall come an hour when the dust will seem animated by palpitating life, and be in haste to give up the dead! O, hate the sin which has wrought so much ruin, love Him who revealed the existence of light beyond the tomb, and the possibility of attaining to it—through whose long suffering and loving kindness you may secure a part in the joyfulness of the resurrection to come. A. T. E. C. Wadham's Mills, N. Y., 1864.

ALONE WITH GOD.—There is a sublimity in silence and solitude. Alone! How still the air! The city sleeps in silence. No voice, no footsteps, nothing but the whispers of the night. How still it is! The stars wink at each other, but utter no words. The moon travels on her course, but is silent. Night! How grand the scene. My soul thrills as I contemplate. The world is hushed and I am alone—alone with God.

PEOPLE do not support the gospel; the gospel supports them. The gospel will live whether they do or not pay their five or fifty or five hundred dollars to uphold it. The gospel will live whether they attack, neglect or cherish it; but without the gospel, the good tidings, there is for them no life neither in this world, neither in the world to come.

I WISH for no other heaven on this side of the last sea I must cross than this service of Christ, to make my blackness beauty, my deadness life, my guiltiness sanctification. I long much for that day when I will be holy. Oh, what spots are yet unwashed!—*Rutherford.*

The Reviewer.

HILLARD'S SERIES OF SIX READERS for the use of Schools. By GEORGE S. HILLARD. Boston: Brewer & Tilton.

We have examined these Readers with some care, and yet not sufficiently to speak of their relative merits compared with other readers extant. This question of text books for schools is at best but a "vexed question," and one which we shall not attempt to solve. We simply give our impressions of the works before us after a cursory look through them. The first is a primary reader in which are the alphabet, a table of numbers, and words in their simplest form combined to make simple sentences. Each lesson is illustrated with a finely executed engraving.

The second primary reader is designed to exercise the pupil in enunciation. The lessons are a degree more difficult than in the first, and are designed to introduce or prepare the pupil for the third. Many of these lessons are illustrated; these illustrations are mainly domestic, and hackneyed. We do not think this reader as meritorious in its place as the first.

The third in the series is called the Fourth Reader, and is designed for children from nine to twelve years of age. It contains lessons in articulation, pronunciation, accent and emphasis, inflection, &c. The selections are very good indeed, relating more to events than things—pleasant stories that will interest the young reader, but not the kind of lessons best calculated to arouse a spirit of inquiry. We notice very few indeed that will induce the pupil to ask questions after reading them. The moral tone of the selections is good.

The fourth in the series is called the Intermediate Reader—designed, the author says, for pupils ten to thirteen years of age. The remarks made relating to the character of the selections in the third of the series will apply here. The difficult words in each lesson are defined at the close.

The fifth reader is for still more advanced pupils. It retains, however, the essential characteristics peculiar to the two last. There is variety of exercise and literary selections of merit. But there is lacking what we deem essential in a reading lesson—something that shall set the mind in motion.

The sixth reader contains an introductory treatise on Elocution, by Prof. MARK BAILEY. And this book seems designed and adapted for the wants of advanced students who are required to declaim periodically. Its selections are better adapted, as a rule, to this use than any other. As a work on Elocution, it fills its place better, in our opinion, than any other one of the series.

DAILY WALK WITH WISE MEN; Or, Religious Exercises for every day in the year. Selected, arranged, and specially adapted by Rev. NELSON HEAD. [pp. 782.] New York: Harper & Bros.

The book before us is one which will be welcomed by all who have long desired just such a guide for their daily religious devotions. Such a help to Christian meditation and holy practice is specially demanded by the present state of the Christian community in general, in which there is apt to be "more noise and outward show, but less of the calm, thoughtful and devout piety of other days."

The work contains a verse for each day of the year, with appropriate expositions and reflections selected from many of the most distinguished writers of the early church, as well as that of more modern times. It is this feature which gives to the book its chief value. Here we find "the beautiful and fervid teachings of Chrysostom, the golden-mouthed, the deep and devout utterances of Augustine, the equally revered Latin Father, the richness of Taylor, the earnestness of Baxter, the tender appeals of Flavel, the sweetness and unction of Leighton, and the silvery eloquence of Bates—all presenting the highest truths so as to enlighten the understanding, warm the heart, and direct the practice of a holy life." We heartily recommend this collection as supplying, better than any book of a similar character, a want long felt by Christians of all denominations. Sold by STEELE & AVERY. Price \$1.50.

FLOWERS FOR THE PARLOR AND GARDEN. By EDW. SPRAGUE RANSOM. Boston: J. E. Tilton & Co.

This is an admirable work. Just such a work was needed—is needed by every one, almost, who delights in window gardening. And a great many persons would take delight in it, who do not, did they know how to take care of plants which they admire in other people's parlors. And they will learn, if they can purchase, at a reasonable price, specific directions. From what we have seen of it, we think we can safely say that this work is the specific they need. The mechanical execution of the book is very fine indeed; paper excellent, engravings ditto, letter-press clean and in excellent taste. But the chief recommendation is that the matter is practical, detailed, specific, so as to meet the wants of all who love flowers and would cultivate them in windows or gardens. We are aware that this is high praise; but this work approaches more nearly what we have long been aware was needed than any we have seen. We are delighted with it.

PALMONI; Or, the Numerals of Scripture a Proof of Inspiration. A Free Inquiry. By M. MAHAN, D. D., St. Mark's in the Bowery, Professor of Ecclesiastical History in the General Theological Seminary. [pp. 176.] New York: D. Appleton & Co. 1863.

In this work Prof. MAHAN enters upon a field of discussion which is new to most Biblical students, at least to those of the present time. He, very modestly, professes to have examined but "one little corner of the vast field," but the reader will be ready to acknowledge that he has done enough to prove that the topics discussed have an absorbing interest. The object of the book is to show, by a consideration of the numerals and the chronology of Scripture, that there is in the Sacred Word "a supernatural element, a supernatural life pervading its organism." The author is well qualified for the task which he has undertaken, having investigated deeply and come to a good understanding of the subjects on which he writes, and he has produced a work which will interest all who will give it a careful perusal. For sale by STEELE & AVERY.

CAMP FIRES OF THE REVOLUTION, Or, the War of Independence, illustrated by thrilling events and stories, by the old Continental Soldiers. By HENRY C. WATSON. Philadelphia, Lindsay & Blakelston.

This is a book which will be read with interest by youths and all others who are fond of war stories. These stories purport to be talks among the soldiers about the camp fires concerning the minor incidents that made up the great events during the struggle for independence. Whether actual incidents are narrated or not, the book is well written, and if read will awaken an interest in the history of the earlier struggles of this country. It is a good book to buy for your boy, Sir. For sale by STEELE & AVERY.

FIVE YEARS OF PRAYER, with the answers. By SAMUEL INEZEUS PRIME. New York: Harper & Bros.

This work is prepared by "Ireneus," whose writings are familiar to the readers of the New York Observer. His "Letters under the Trees" in that paper during the past year have attracted considerable attention. The work before us are collected instances and...

illustrating the power of prayer; such as, we are assured, are well authenticated. The subjects of a few of the chapters of this book will best indicate its contents.—Special Answers to Prayer; Prayer for Revivals Answered; Remarkable Conversions; Praying Wives; Conversion of Children; Prayer among Soldiers; The Revival in Ireland, &c., &c. Many of the facts related in this book are remarkable—almost miraculous. It will be read with interest, and will be a valuable addition to a religious library. For sale by STEELE & AVERY. Price \$1.25.

CHAMBERS' ENCYCLOPEDIA: Dictionary of Universal Knowledge for the People. On the basis of the latest edition of the German Conversations Lexicon. Illustrated with Maps and Numerous Wood Engravings. Published in Paris, price 30 cents each; to be comprised in six or seven volumes, similar in appearance to the volumes of "Chamber's Information for the People." Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

This publication has reached its 65th number, and the last issue is marked with all the enterprise and good taste exhibited at the beginning. The greater our opportunity for judging of the merits of this Encyclopedia the more are we impressed with its value to the general reader, the business man, or the student. Forming, as it does, a library in itself, and treating upon all the important topics of the times in a scholarly manner, it must prove of great practical value to any of our young men, and he who is its possessor is truly fortunate. JAMES RATOLIFFE is the Agent for Rochester and vicinity.

THE ATLANTIC FOR FEBRUARY.—We have just laid this periodical down, having read through some articles and glanced through others. There is food enough in it for a month's reflection. The first article is a concretion on "Genius." As a whole it is a remarkable article; and whether the reader may regard it as orthodox or not, it is well worth reading—is worth the cost of the number. "My Brother and I," is a poem giving us two vivid pictures of life as it is. "A Half-Life and Half a Life" is a story of development which will excite interest and sympathy with the heroine. No. 2, of "House and Home Papers" is a good one, affording a lesson which we have marked for our readers to look at. A chapter on "Bryant" and his poems will be appreciated by those who appreciate him. There is also a careful article on "The relation of Art to Nature," which will commend itself to those interested in Art matters.

SPECIMEN PAGES OF THE AMERICAN CONFLICT by HORACE GREELY.—We have received from a Hartford firm a part of the above title—to be completed sometime. We have a great aversion to recommending anything incomplete. There is no doubt as to Mr. GREELY'S ability to render such a work valuable, if he lends his services as well as his name to it. But when we see it complete we shall be better able to speak of its merits.

Various Topics.

"RIPE OLD AGE."

THE man that dies youngest, as might be expected, perhaps, is the Railway Brakeman. His average age is only 27. Yet this must be taken with some allowance, from the fact that hardly any but young and active men are employed in that capacity. At the same age dies the factory work-woman, through the combined influence of confined air, sedentary posture, scant wages, and unremitting toil. Then comes the railway baggageman, who is smashed, on an average, at 30.

Milliners and dressmakers live but little longer. The average of the one is 32, and the other 33.

The engineer, the fireman, the conductor, the powder maker, the well digger, and the factory operative, all of whom are exposed to sudden and violent deaths, die on an average under the age of 35.

The cutler, the dyer, the leather dresser, the apothecary, the confectioner, the cigar maker, the printer, the silversmith, the painter, the shoe cutter, the engraver and the machinist, all of whom lead confined lives in an unwholesome atmosphere, none of them reach the average age of 40.

The musician blows his breath all out of his body at 40. The editor knocks himself into pi at the same age.

Then come trades that are active or in a purer air. The baker lives to the average age of 43, the butcher to 49, the brickmaker to 47, the carpenter to 49, the furnace-man to 42, the mason to 48, the stone-cutter to 43, the tanner to 49, the tinsmith to 41, the weaver to 44, the drover to 40, the cook to 45, the inn-keeper to 46, the laborer to 44, the domestic servant (female) to 43. The tailor lives to 43, the tailress to 41.

Why should the barber live till 50 if not to show the virtue there is in personal neatness and in soap and water?

Those who average over half a century among mechanics, are those who keep their muscles and lungs in healthful and moderate exercise, and are not troubled with weighty cares. The blacksmith hammers till 51, the cooper till 53, the builder till 52, the shipwright till 56, the wheelwright till 50. The miller lives to be whitened with the age of 61. The ropemaker lengthens the thread of life to 54. Merchants, wholesale and retail, till 52.

Professional men live longer than is generally supposed. Litigation kills clients sometimes, but seldom lawyers, for they average 55. Physicians prove their usefulness by prolonging their own lives to the same period. Clergymen, who, it is to be presumed, enjoy a greater mental serenity than others, last till 65.

Seafaring life and its adjuncts seem, instead of dangerous, to be actually conducive of longevity. We have already seen that the shipwright lives till 56. The sailor averages 43, the caulker 64, the sailmaker 52, the stevedore 57, the ferryman 65, and the pilot 64.

A dispensation of Providence that "Maine Law" men may consider incomprehensible is, that brewers and distillers live to the ripe old age of 64.

Last and longest-lived come paupers, 67, and "gentlemen," 68. The only two classes that do nothing for themselves, and live on their neighbors, outlast all the rest. Why should they wear out, when they are always idle?



THE FALCON

HERE is a bird, boys and girls, about which you should learn something; for it is associated with the amusements of the people in the days of Chivalry. Our space will not permit us to give, this week, all we might say concerning the uses made of this bird—how it was trained to sit on the hand of a proud lady, with a hood on its head, until the bird the lady would have caught appeared in sight—and how, when the hood was removed, it would pursue with swift flight its victim, and return with it to its perch

on the lady's fair hand. But this is a subject which will be of interest to you if you pursue it.

The falcon is simply a hawk—a bird of doubtful reputation in this country. Every good woman and young lady who cherishes poultry, regards this famous falcon with aversion. So the people have changed since the early days! It is one of the tokens of progress, perhaps.

But be sure to learn more of the uses made of this bird by the men and women of the early time.

BODILY CARRIAGE.

INSTEAD of giving all sorts of rules about turning out the toes, and straightening up the body, and holding the shoulders back, all of which are impracticable to many, because soon forgotten, or productive of a feeling of awkwardness and discomfort which procures a willing omission, all that is necessary to secure the object is to hold up the head and move on, letting the head and shoulders take care of themselves. Walk with the chin but slightly above a horizontal line, or with your eye directed to things a little higher than your own head. In this way you walk properly, pleasantly, and without any feeling of restraint or awkwardness. If any of you wish to be aided in securing this habitual carriage of body, accustom yourselves to carry your hands behind you, one hand grasping the opposite wrist.

Englishmen are admired the world over for their full chests, broad shoulders, sturdy frames, and manly bearing. This position of body is a favorite with them—in the simple promenade in the garden or gallery, in attending ladies along a crowded street, in standing on the street or in public worship. Many persons spend a large part of their waking existence in the sitting position. A single rule, well attended to in this connection, would be of incalculable value to multitudes—use chairs with the old-fashioned straight backs, a little inclining backwards, and sit with the lower portion of the body close against the back of the chair at the seat. Any one who tries it will observe in a moment a grateful support to the whole spine; and we see no reason why children should not be taught from the beginning to write, and sew, and knit in a position requiring the lower portion of the body and the shoulders to touch the back of the chair at the time. A very common position in sitting, especially among men, is with the shoulders against the chair back, with a space of several inches between the chair back and the lower portion of the spine, giving the body the shape of a half hoop; it is the instantaneous, instinctive, and almost universal position assumed by any consumptive on sitting down, unless counteracted by an effort of the will; hence parents should regard such a position in their children with apprehension, and should rectify it at once.

HOW THE EARTH YIELDS RICHES.

AN official statement of the mineral wealth of Great Britain has just appeared in London, and from it we gather the following interesting statistics of what the earth yields for the enrichment of the British people. There are over 3,088 collieries in operation, employing over a quarter of a million of persons—including seven thousand women. The largest quantity of coal produced in any one year was 85,635,214 tons. This was in 1861. The average export of coal from England is about 7,000,000 tons a year. Of iron seven and a half millions of tons were smelted last year, but 36,270 tons besides were exported. The value of the pig iron produced last year was nearly £10,000,000, or \$50,000,000. There are 230 copper mines in the kingdom, of which 201 are in Cornwall and Devonshire, and they produced in the year 1862 over 224,000 tons of ore—but this gave only 14,843 tons of fine copper after refining.

The tin mines yielded more in 1862 than in previous years, the aggregate product having been 14,127 tons of ore, worth, after refining, \$5,000,000; but there is a prospect that the Cornish mines will yield still more largely this year. Tin has been obtained for more than two thousand years in Cornwall and Devonshire, and

yet the mines are more fruitful than ever. The lead mines yield nearly a hundred thousand tons a year, and the silver extracted from the lead ore in one year (1852) amounted to 688,123 ounces. Small quantities of gold have been found from time to time; one mine last year produced five thousand ounces, worth about \$100,000. Earthy minerals—barytes, lime, salt, and the valuable clays—produce annually about eight and a half millions of dollars; and the annual value of all the mineral products is about \$225,000,000.

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR.

THE Chaldeans' and the Egyptians' years were dated from the autumnal equinox. The ecclesiastical year of the Jews began in the spring; but in civil affairs they retain the epoch of the Egyptian year. The ancient Chinese reckoned from the new moon nearest the middle of Aquarius. The year of Romulus commenced in March, and that of Numa in January. The Turks and Arabs date the year from the 16th of July. Dremeschild, or Gremeschild, King of Persia, observed on the day of his public entry into Persopolis, that the sun entered into Aries; and in commemoration of this fortunate event he ordered the beginning of the year to be removed from autumnal to vernal equinox. The Brahmens begin their year with the new moon in April. The Mexicans begin their year in February, when the leaves begin to grow green. Their year consists of eighteen months, having twenty days each; the last five days are spent in mirth, and no business is suffered to be done, nor either any service in the temples. The Abyssinians have five idle days at the end of the year, which commences on the 26th of August.

The American Indians reckon from the first appearance of the new moon at the vernal equinox. The Mahomedans begin their year the minute the sun enters Aries. The Venetians, Florentines and Pisans in Italy, began the year at the vernal equinox. The French year, during the reign of the Merovingian race, began with the day on which the troops were reviewed, which was the first day of March. Under the Carolingians it began on Christmas day, and at a later date on Easter day. The ecclesiastical year begins on the first Sunday in Advent. Charles IX appointed, in 1564, that for the future the civil year should commence on the first of January. The Julian calendar, which was so called from Julius Cæsar, and is the old account of the year, was reformed by Pope Gregory, in 1582, which plan was suggested by Léwis Lillo, a Calabrian astronomer. The Dutch and the Protestants in Germany introduced the new style in 1700. The ancient clergy reckoned from the 25th of March; and this method was observed in Britain until the introduction of the style, A. D., 1652; after which our year commenced on the first of January.—*Advent Herald.*

HEALTH OF THE BODY SHOULD BE PRESERVED.—Good men should be attentive to their health, and keep the body as much as possible the fit medium of the mind. A man may be a good performer, but what can he do with a disordered instrument? The inhabitant may have good eyes, but how can he see accurately through a soiled window? Keep, therefore, the glass clean and the organ in tune. We do not wish you to be fanciful—to live in the shop of an apothecary—or to have a medical student always in attendance. But be soberly and prudently attentive to the body. Rise early. Take proper exercise. Observe and avoid whatever disagrees with your system. Never overburden nature. Be moderate in your eating and drinking—the board slays more than the sword.—*Jay.*

Reading for the Young.

A SONG FOR CHILDREN.

As I walked over the hills one day,
I listened and heard a mother sheep say,
"In all the green world there is nothing so sweet,
As my little lammie with his nimble feet,
With his eye so bright,
And his wool so white,
Oh! he is my darling, my heart's delight.
The robin, he
That sings in the tree,
Dearly may dote on his darlings four;
But I love my own little lamkin more."
And the mother sheep and her little one,
Side by side lay down in the sun,
And they went to sleep on the hillside warm,
But my little darling's asleep on my arm.

I went to the kitchen, and what did I see,
But the old grey cat with her kittens three;
I heard her whispering soft—said she
"My kittens with tails so cunningly curled,
Are the prettiest things that can be in the world.
The bird on the tree,
Or the old ewe, she
May love her babies exceedingly;
But I love my kittens there,
Under the rocking chair.
I love my kittens with all my might;
I love them at morning, noon and night,
Which is the prettiest I cannot tell,
Which of the three—
For the life of me—
I love my kitties all so well.
Now I'll take up my kitties, the kitties I love,
So we'll lie down together 'neath the warm stove."
Let the kitties sleep under the stove so warm,
While my little darling lies here on my arm.

I went to the yard, and I saw the old hen
Go clucking about with her chickens ten.
She clucked and she scratched and bristled away,
And what do you think I heard her say?
I heard her say, "The sun never did shine
On anything like to those chickens of mine.
You may hunt the full moon, and stars if you please,
But you never will find ten such chickens as these.
The cat loves her kittens, the ewe loves her lamb,
But they do not know what a proud mother I am;
For lambs, nor for kittens, I won't part with these,
Though the sheep and the cats should go down on their knees.
No! no! not though
The kittens should crow,
Or the lammie on two yellow legs could go,
My dear downy darlings! my sweet little things!
Come nestle now, cozily, under my wings."
So the hen said,
And the chickens all sped
As fast as they could to their nice feather bed.
And there let them sleep in their feathers so warm,
While my little chick nestles here on my arm.

ABOUT THE SONG

We have given above a song for children. We suppose—at least we hope—that all the little readers of the RURAL think about what they read. We should greatly like to know what you think about the song. It ought to teach you something. If it does not, it is of no use at all in the paper. And we want to tell you that it is better that you should read but one article, and understand and learn something from it, than that you should read the whole paper through, and learn nothing. Now, what is there in the song worth knowing? It is a very simple song. Perhaps some of our young readers will call it too silly for them—will say that "there's nothing in that but baby-talk." But they are mistaken. If you read it carefully, you will learn that the mother sheep, the robin, the old grey cat, and the old hen, each think their children the most precious ones in the wide world. You could not get them to exchange with each other—not they! GOD has given each creature this affection for its own offspring. You, farmer boys, know that the old cow "Lop-horn" will have nothing to do with any other calf than her own. A dozen calves belonging to other cows may be turned into the yard with her, and yet she will have nothing to do with them—she will "hook" them if they come near her, and will loo for her own calf. And yet there may be many among the dozen, just as good, and perhaps better. It is wise that GOD has given the cow, and all other mothers, this maternal instinct—this affection for their own offspring. If it were not so, the mother sheep might like a pig just as well as her own lamb; the goose would run off with the old hen's chickens; the hen might claim the young turkeys; the cow might like the old mare's colt better than her calf, and your mother might think more of somebody's else child.

So you can see what disorder, mis-mating and unhappiness it would create—and how good a thing it is that we think more of our own relatives than we do of other people. And while it is right we should love all the beings GOD has created, it is natural we should love our own family relations more—that we should be content with those to whom we are attached by kindred ties. It is right you should love your mother—as she loves you—above all other mothers. And loving her, you should obey her—should always be ready to serve her. And the more faithfully you serve her, and seek to lighten her burthens, the better you will love her, and the more joyful and happy will your life become. Those for whom we suffer most, as a rule, receive our warmest affections. Care for others begets love for them; and this is one reason why your mother loves you better than any other child.

We hope you will learn something more from the song. Talk to your parents about it.

At the sea shore, they say, "How hot they must be in the city." In the city, when the wind is east, they say, "How cold they must be at the sea shore." The fancied misery of others constitutes a source of happiness.

Rural New-Yorker.

NEWS DEPARTMENT.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., FEBRUARY 6, 1864.

The Army in Virginia.

A FIGHT took place on the 1st inst., in New Creek Valley, between an advancing column of the enemy's troops and one column of ours. After an engagement we repulsed the enemy, driving him back over two miles.

The command of Col Thorburn, which comprised the garrison at Petersburg, is now all safe. On the 31st ult., he evacuated in consequence of receiving information that the enemy in large force would attack at daylight in the morning. The enemy did attack Petersburg in the morning with artillery, made regular approaches and charged, but found no opposing force. Col. Thorburn was within hearing distance with his retreating column.

The following has been received at the War Department:

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 24.

To E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War:—Brig-Gen. Graham by my direction went with three armed transports and a competent force to the Peninsula, and made a landing on the James river 7 miles below Fort Powhatan, known as the Brandon farm, and captured 22 of the enemy, 7 of the signal corps, and bro't away 99 negroes. They also destroyed 24,000 lbs. of pork and large quantities of oats and corn, and captured a sloop and schooner with 240 boxes of tobacco and five Jews preparing to run the blockade, and returned without the loss of a man.

B. F. BUTLER.

Gen. Butler has issued a general order relative to the passage of women and children for the seceded States through his lines, which is as follows:

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 24.

Inasmuch as the rebels of the Confederate States are sending their women and children through this department, and retaining all able bodied men, it is ordered,

1st. That no white women or children will be permitted to come through the lines without a pass from these headquarters or the headquarters of the army of North Carolina.

2. All able bodied men will be received, detained until reported to these headquarters or the headquarters of the District and Army of North Carolina, and orders given concerning them.

3d. Nothing in this order shall be construed to conflict with General Order No. 46 relating to colored persons.

By command of Maj.-Gen. B. F. BUTLER.

A reconnoitering force that had been sent out from Col. Campbell's command, returned after going to Romney. They divided into three columns, one going out on the Winchester road thirty miles, the other down the road to the vicinity of Wardensville, and the other on the old Moorfield road to about Through Mountain. None of these columns met with serious opposition in their advance. The information they gained proves of high importance, and tells of mysterious movements and proceedings within the rebel lines.

We took a number of Co. A, of the 60th Ga. regiment prisoners. A rebel officer says that five or six Georgia and Alabama regiments have been divided into small squads and stationed at different points in the valley and mountains to prevent desertions. He reports that his company encountered a portion of Col. Mulligan's troops and had a fight, was whipped and had to skedaddle. This rebel officer also reports that the enemy is actually pressing all men into the rebel service between the ages of 16 and 55. From his story it seems that some of the North Carolina and some of the Virginia regiments are being watched with suspicion.

An order has been issued directing that new hospital arrangements shall be made for the field, and that all the sick now in the army be sent to the rear.

Department of the South.

A CORRESPONDENT of the N. Y. Commercial writes from Folly Island that rumors were still prevalent among the troops of a meditated expedition toward Savannah, but nothing reliable concerning it was known outside of headquarters. There was a general review, on the 20th ult., of all the troops on the Island. Seven thousand men were in line, beside two full batteries. Gen. Terry is now in command at Folly Island, and occupies Gen. Gilmore's former headquarters. All hopes of reaching Charleston this winter have died away among the troops.

A lady who left Charleston January 11th, gives important information from there to the N. Y. Herald. One half the city has been abandoned and damaged by Gen. Gilmore's shells. From the Battery to Wentworth street, about the middle of the city, nearly all the houses are demolished or greatly damaged. All the hotels are so much injured as to be cleared, except the Pavilion.

A Morris Island letter of the 21st says:—A big scare in the fleet a few nights since was caused by some rebel obstructions floating out to sea. If our iron clads were nearer Charleston, neither torpedoes nor sea horses would run against them with impunity. The obstructions in the channel between Sumter and Moultrie are entirely gone, and the opinion of naval officers is that there are no impediments to our fleet's progress except those extending from James Island to the middle ground.

Speaking of the growing discontent among the people of North Carolina, and their desire to hold a State Convention, the Wilmington (N. C.) Journal says:—"We say—and we say most sincerely—that plans evidently concocted and movements set on foot in North Carolina, are ominous of graver consequences than even the advance of the Standard."

The Raleigh Standard, in its appeals to slaveholders for peace, says:—"We went to war to protect the State sovereignty, and to defend and

perpetuate the institution of slavery, but if it should appear that we are likely to lose both, as rational beings we should pause and consider well the direction which things are taking.

Department of the Gulf.

By arrivals from New Orleans we have intelligence from this Department up to the 23d ult. We condense therefrom as follows:

A Free State Convention for the nomination of candidates for State officers, was to be held in New Orleans on the 1st of February. The names now mentioned most prominently in connection with the gubernatorial Chair are Judge Whittaker and Hon. Michael Hann. Hon. Mr. Durant can have the nomination if he will take it.

Gen. Banks has pledged himself to the Free State Committee to so modify the Louisiana Constitution as to exclude negroes from the representative basis.

The veteran troops in this Department are re-enlisting with great unanimity.

A New Orleans letter says Capt. Mann, commanding a Federal gunboat, was captured at St. Francisville by rebel cavalry scouts, and being recognized as an ex-engineer on the rebel gunboat McRea, was sentenced to be shot. Repeated demands for his release were made by the fleet, which the Confederates would not comply with. The village was destroyed by the fleet.

News from Baton Rouge reports the capture of a scouting party under Capt. Earl.

The same correspondent says an attack is expected at Port Hudson and Baton Rouge, and large re-enforcements have been sent there.

A private letter from Texas gives an account of the destruction (before reported) of a rebel iron-clad gunboat near Port Cabello, on the 31st ult., by the gunboat Sciota, assisted by the U. S. steamship Monongahela. The letter also states that the rebels are in strong force at Brazoria, about 15 miles inland on the Brazos river. Ten thousand it is said have been concentrated there.

At the mouth, and on the coast immediately around the mouth, fortifications mounting 24 guns have been erected, but with the assistance of the navy it is not thought much difficulty will be experienced in capturing the place. There are no signs of a forward movement of our army, however, and changes may occur that will alter the aspect of affairs before the advance begins.

Advices from Matamoras report another revolution there. Cortinas was again in power. He was placed second in command of the troops, and according to previous accounts was to march against Mexico and use his power to again make himself Governor. There was considerable fighting among the Mexicans in Matamoras on the 13th ult., during which Gen. Herron, commanding our forces at Brownsville, dispatched the 30th Wisconsin and 94th Illinois and five pieces of the 1st Missouri battery across the river. All but the 30th Wisconsin bivouacked on the banks; but this regiment went almost up to the plaza, spent the night in front of the residence of the American Consul, who next morning was escorted to Brownsville, together with a large number of followers. Some 200 of them retained their arms, which they delivered up to the United States authorities.

The Navy Department has received information of the following captures:

On the 10th of January the U. S. bark Roebuck captured the Confederate sloop Maria Louisa while attempting to run out of Jupiter Inlet, Fla. On the 11th, the Roebuck also captured the English schooner Susan. At the same time and place the U. S. steamer Honey-suckle captured the English schooner Fly, of Nassau. On the 13th, the schooner Two Sisters, tender to the San Jacinto, captured the British schooner William.

Movements in the West and South-West.

KENTUCKY.—Rumors prevail of preparations by the rebels for an extensive invasion of Kentucky. The military persistently deny that there is any foundation for such a rumor. The popular idea is that the rebels have no alternative, but must starve or make the attempt for self-preservation.

The Louisville Journal has the following in regard to the affair at Scottsville:

Capt. Gillman, of the 45th Kentucky, was commanding at Scottsville with 150 men, when Col. Hamilton, with 500 men, attacked him. After a desperate fight, Gillman surrendered Scottsville, on condition that private property should be respected and the men paroled. Hamilton consented to this, but afterward fired the Court House, destroying the public documents. Capt. Gillman then informed Hamilton that he no longer considered the parole of his men legal. Our merchants have just received further information, that Hamilton had robbed several stores.

TENNESSEE.—The correspondent of the Cincinnati Gazette, writing from Knoxville the 20th, says:—On Friday last our cavalry, under Gen. Sturgis, advanced in the direction of Bainbridge, 40 miles from Knoxville, and on Saturday morning he drew the enemy's videttes out of that village. A portion of our infantry, under Gen. Parks, also moved up, but learning that the enemy were in full force beyond Bainbridge, they fell back to their former position.

On Monday morning, the enemy, seeing that we had drawn back our cavalry as far as possible, made a desperate attack on our lines with Hood's and Bushrod Johnson's divisions, led by the Hampton Cavalry. Observing the desperate determination of the enemy, Gen. Sturgis ordered Col. McCook, commanding a division of Elliott's Cavalry, to charge the enemy. The charge turned the fortunes of the day, which up to this time had been decidedly against us. Our total loss is about 150. On

Sunday we fell back to Strawberry Plains, six miles from Knoxville.

On the 19th, Gen. Sturgis fell back to Knoxville, and the same evening crossed the Holston river, with a view of intercepting the enemy at Lewisville. Gen. Gordon Granger's troops were moving in the same direction on the 20th ult., where a battle is impending. Gen. Foster is pretty confident of thwarting the enemy. Gen. Longstreet has been heavily re-enforced. Several of the prisoners taken were fresh from Richmond.

On the 23d our entire force crossed the Holstein at Strawberry Plains, and fell back to a new position.

Our loss of stores at Strawberry Plains was quite severe. Several caissons were blown up. About two hundred stragglers were picked up by the rebels.

After crossing the Holstein, our troops burnt the bridge and everything else likely to fall into the hands of the enemy, including a considerable amount of new clothing.

On the 22d the rebels and our sharpshooters were skirmishing across the river, six miles above Knoxville. The movements of the enemy are not clearly understood. It is supposed that Longstreet will besiege Knoxville. Men have been put to work on the fortifications, and new batteries put into position. Longstreet has a strong and well fortified position at Bull's Gap, whence he can throw forces into the valley on either side with great facility. Matters will not remain long in their present condition.

Gen. J. G. Foster telegraphs from Knoxville, Tenn., under date of Jan. 28, at 9 A. M., as follows:

HEADQUARTERS MILITARY DIVISION OF THE } MISSISSIPPI, NASHVILLE, Jan. 28.

I have the honor to report that the cavalry under Gen. Sturgis achieved a decided victory over the enemy's cavalry yesterday, near the Fair Gardens, ten miles east of Leblerville. McCook's division drove the enemy back about two miles, after a stubborn fight, lasting from daylight until 4 P. M., at which time the division charged with the saber and yell and routed the enemy from the field, capturing two steel rifle guns and over one hundred prisoners. The enemy's loss was considerable, sixty-five of them being either killed or wounded in the charge. Garnard's and Wolford's divisions came up after a forced march, in time to be pushed in pursuit, although their horses were jaded. Gen. Sturgis hoped to be able to make the route complete.

Later information from Gen. Dodge, Pulaski, Tenn., under date of the 26th inst., says the enemy crossed the Tennessee river last night and attacked Athens, Ala., this morning, and were defeated, and are now trying to get back. The troops at Athens had mostly gone to Florence to attack Johnson's force crossing there, and Col. Harrison with 600 rebels and two pieces of artillery, took advantage of their absence and were badly defeated. Still later advices say that Dodge has badly whipped Johnson at Florence.

The Cincinnati Commercial has the following special:

Gen. Palmer, with Gen. Davis' division, moved from Funnell Hill, Geo., on the 28th on a reconnaissance. The 28th Kentucky and 4th Michigan drove in the rebel advance pickets, and captured a company of rebel cavalry. The rebels retreated from Funnell Hill during the night. They lost 32 killed and wounded. The object of the reconnaissance was effected.

The following has been received at the headquarters of the Army:

CHAATTANOOGA, Jan. 27.

Col. Bourne, with a force of 450 men of the 28th Kentucky mounted infantry, and the 4th Michigan cavalry, attacked the camp of the Home Guards, Col. Culbertson commanding, and routed them, destroying their camp. A considerable number of arms were captured. They returned to their camp without any casualties. Johnson's brigade of Roddy's command crossed the Tennessee at Bainbridge, three miles, and Newport Ferry six miles below Florence, intending to make a junction with a brigade of infantry who were expected to cross the river at Lamb's and Brown's ferry, and thence proceed to Alton to capture our forces there. We engaged them, killing 15, wounding quite a number, and taking some of them prisoners, among them commissioned officers. Our loss is 18 wounded.

Gen. GEO. H. THOMAS, Major-General Commanding.

ARKANSAS.—Late advices from Little Rock, state that Judge Clayton will be elected provisional Governor of Arkansas.

On the 22d ult. the rebel Generals Marmaduke, Shelby and Fagan were reported as advancing on Pine Bluff, with three columns of rebel troops. Lieut. Payst had attacked Marmaduke, but was unsuccessful.

Col. Clayton had an engagement some days previous, in which Fagan was repulsed. Col. Clayton then marched against Shelby, forcing him to retreat 11 miles, but fearing a flank movement, Clayton fell back 7 miles, and telegraphed for re-enforcements, but sent word soon afterwards that no assistance was needed.

AFFAIRS AT WASHINGTON.

THE statement copied from European papers, that Marshal Forey had an extraordinary mission to Washington, and obtained here a pledge that the United States would not disturb the new Mexican monarchy, in return to promises from France in regard to her attitude toward the South, is in every shape and form without foundation. Marshal Forey has not been at Washington, has made no communications to the government, and no such pledges have been made.

Hon. Wm. Whiting, Solicitor of the War Department, has decided that aliens who are subjects of a foreign government, having voluntarily enlisted in the service of the United States as substitutes for drafted men, are not entitled to be discharged from such service on the ground of alienage, but may, under the law of nations, be held to perform their engagements without giving the government to which their allegiance is due just cause of complaint.

Another call for troops has been issued by the President, as will be seen below:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1863.

Ordered that a draft for 500,000 men to serve for three years or during the war be made on the 10th day of March next, for the military service of the United States, crediting and deducting therefrom so many as may have been enlisted or drafted into the service prior to the 10th day of March, and not heretofore credited.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

The President has notified the Arkansas delegation that he had instructed Gen. Steele to order an election for Governor in that State at once. The regular election of State officers and Congressmen will follow. Over 7,000 citizens of that state have taken the oath of allegiance.

The Senate, in executive session, confirmed the nomination of Chas. A. Dana as second Assistant Secretary of War.

Representative Gussou of Iowa, stated in the House, that the Post-Office Department is now self-sustaining.

From official data in the War Department, it is ascertained that the whole number of troops that were enlisted for actual service for the month of October was 100,000.

It is understood that the House Committee of Commerce will in a few days report in favor of the abrogation of the Canadian Reciprocity Treaty.

Gen. Halleck having replied in the negative to Secretary Chase's inquiry as to whether there would be danger of supplies reaching the rebels if trade restrictions were removed from the States of Kentucky and Missouri, Mr. Chase has prescribed and the President has sanctioned regulations opening those States to unrestricted commercial intercourse. The same policy will soon be followed in Delaware and Maryland.

NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

A DISPATCH to the Chicago Tribune from St. Louis states that on the North Missouri Railroad 10,000 hogs have frozen to death, and an immense number of cattle have frozen along the different railroads.

DURING the year 1863 four hundred and fifty-two American vessels were lost at sea. In this are included those captured and burned by rebel pirates. The total value of the property lost is \$20,531,800.

THE total amount of gold brought to New York from California during the present year, is estimated at \$11,905,478—less than half the amount brought last year. For the past nine years the shipments have reached \$297,029,731.

THE Chicago Tribune of the 15th says that the previous day was probably the busiest the city ever saw in the provision market. In bulk and box meats alone no less than four million pounds changed hands besides several thousand packages of pork, lard, &c.

THE gas from the wells on Oil-Creek, Pa., is now being utilized. Many of the miners use it for fuel, instead of coal or oil. A pipe running direct from the conducting apparatus of the well to the engine house conducts the gas to the flues. The plan works admirably.

A FATAL disease is prevailing at Carbondale, Penn. It is called the black or spotted fever, and with the exception of a very few cases has completely baffled the skill of the physicians. From six to eight deaths a day occur, the victims dying within a few hours after being attacked.

TWENTY-ONE millions more of gold are now on deposit in New York, Philadelphia, and Boston than on the 1st of December, 1860, when the Southern Rebellion broke out. Our receipts of Gold at New York from Europe and from California since the 1st of December, 1860, exceed our shipments thence by \$16,500,000.

In the published commercial statistics of a small French seaport town, celebrated for its manufacture of counterfeit wines, we find the total exports for the last year 7,700 casks. Shipped to New York, 6,490; San Francisco, 500; New Orleans, 300; all other places, 110. New York nearly monopolizes the trade of the precious stuff.

THE total receipts of lumber by lake at Chicago during the year 1863 were 395,074,882 feet. These are largely in excess of the receipts of the year before, and do not include the receipts by railroad, which were considerable. The Journal says the past has been the most prosperous lumber season ever known in the West, and the prices have also been higher than ever before.

EFFORTS toward the reconstruction of the State Government are extending throughout the counties of Middle Tennessee, but with little hopes of its early return to the Union. The radicals, with Joe Johnston at their head, are in favor of calling a convention to nullify the State Constitution, and frame a new one on emancipation principles. The people of East Tennessee are reviving the old project of forming a separate State of that section.

A SUIT was recently brought before the Superior Court of New York, by Mr. Mills, stage proprietor, against the New York and Harlem Railroad Company, for \$20,000, for the loss of fifty horses by glanders, contracted from the sheds of the railroad company, where they had placed diseased animals, adjoining the stables of the plaintiff. The case is a novel one, and is of importance to a large portion of the community. A verdict was rendered for the plaintiff for \$5,000.

THE Arkansas Convention has elected Judge Clayton Provisional Governor. His record on the Union question is a good one. In the Arkansas Convention which adopted the Secession ordinance, he was the only one who voted against it. For this he was expelled; for this, in connection with his other qualities, he is now made Governor by the Union people. Time and cannon have made all things right.

List of New Advertisements.

Sheep Wash Tobacco—James F. Levin.
The Gardener's Monthly—W. P. Pringle.
Valuable Real Estate for Sale—M. A. J. Hobbie.
Hoyt's Hawaiian Hair Restorative—Jos Hoyt & Co.
New Illustrated Catalogue—C. W. Seeley.
Farm for Sale—J. B. Wilford.
Select Family School for Boys—J. E. Woodbridge.
Fertile Soil by Executors—O. Blackman and W. J. Barnes.
Pine Timber Lands for Sale—J. D. McCurdy.
Open Air Grape Culture—D. M. Dewey.
Farm for Sale—J. M. Webster.
Agents Wanted—Shaw & Clark.
Seed Wheat, &c.
A Farm Wanted.
Agents Wanted—Roylan & Co.
Game Fowls Wanted.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

Farm for Auction—R. P. Kendig.
What the Merchants say—D. B. De Land & Co.

The News Condenser.

- Barbers in Richmond charge \$1 a shave.
- Tom Thumb has retired on a fortune of \$250,000.
- The Lake Erie wine crop is more than 200,000 gallons.
- Four comets and three planets were discovered in 1863.
- "Nothing to Wear" is the most popular song in Dixie.
- The production of coal oil in 1863 was 2,100,000 barrels.
- It is stated that the Maine State tax this year will be \$700,000.
- The city tax of Baltimore last year amounted to \$1,810,067 50.
- There were 187,982 emigrants embarked at Liverpool last year.
- On the 16th of last month the King of the Belgians was 73 years old.
- The total number of deaths in New York during 1863 was 25,196.
- Ohio was represented by 40 regiments in the battle of Chickamauga.
- There are 700 car-loads of freight at Galena, Ill., waiting shipment.
- A chamber of commerce has been organized at Indianapolis, Ind.
- The official majority of Low, the Union Governor of California, is 19,861.
- Fifty steamers are lying idle at Cairo on account of the ice in the river.
- Toad oil is becoming marketable, and is said to be an excellent lubricator.
- A New York fireman, named Ingraham, is chief of the Dublin Fire Brigade.
- The Capitol extension at Washington up to this time has cost \$6,399,909.
- Two full regiments of loyal Texan cavalry have been raised at Brownsville.
- Illinois papers advocate the building of a new railroad from Cairo to St. Louis.
- Henry Cook, of Pelham, Mass., lately chopped in 6 days 19 cords of hard wood.
- The assessed valuation of property in the State of Pennsylvania is \$595,591,994.
- Two thousand Maryland farms are for sale for less than their improvements cost.
- Minnesota has a claim of over a million dollars audited for fighting the Indians.
- The mules at Chattanooga are all dying off. Out of 13,000 only about 4,000 are alive.
- Mr. Speaker Colfax has driven the whisky sellers out of the Capitol at Washington.
- The Legislature of the State of West Virginia convened in first session on the 12th.
- There is a libel suit in the Court of Exchequer, London, about a plate of bean soup.
- The Cincinnati Gazette has received a call from a subscriber of sixty-nine years' standing.
- It is reported that the Empress Eugenie has had her life insured in London for \$1,000,000.
- During the year 1863, 1,300 miles of railroad were added to the completed roads of the U. S.
- There are 95 savings banks in Massachusetts, having an aggregate of deposits of \$56,883,888.
- A large and formidable battery is to be constructed facing Fort Lafayette in New York harbor.
- California is a bad State for insurance companies. The losses more than double the premiums.
- The philanthropists are at loggerheads over the treatment of negroes on the Arlington estate.
- A trunk containing \$47,000 was found last week by our soldiers, secreted in a house near Knoxville.
- The total amount of stock now held by the Government in trust for the Indian tribes is \$3,037,892.
- At the present depreciated rates of rebel currency, the soldier's pay is but 55 cents per month in gold.
- Gold is so plenty as currency in Nova Scotia that it is driving the \$4 and \$4 notes out of circulation.
- Bills authorizing soldiers to vote have been introduced in both houses of the Michigan legislature.
- Gen. Meade has been ill for some days at Philadelphia. He is recovering and will soon resume command.
- The knitting-mills at Seneca Falls, in this State, are now turning out ten thousand pairs of army hose per day.
- Fifteen dollars an hour was the price of the use of a horse and sleigh in Washington during the sleighing season.
- A Richmond paper advertises a lot of brown paper suitable for envelopes or wrapping paper at \$3 a ream.
- There has never been a draft in the State of Indiana. Her quota under the last call is full, with men to spare.
- Small pox has broken out at Harper's Ferry, and is raging with considerable violence. It was introduced by the contrabands.
- The Lockport Journal says the snow is about two feet deep in that vicinity, and lays nearly level on the surface of the ground.
- There have been 98,978 hogs slaughtered in the vicinity of Louisville the past year, their total weight being 19,458,962 pounds.
- The Three Rivers (Canada) Inquirer announces that 240 French Canadians have left that place within ten days for the United States.
- The Washington Public Schools are in a prosperous condition. The average number of scholars is 3,091. 54 teachers are employed.
- A number of oil wells have been sunk at Mecca, Ohio, which promise to be very productive. A good deal of excitement exists among land owners.
- The present is the most prolific game season ever known in Iowa. Every train from the West brings a car-load of quails, pheasants and prairie chickens.

Special Notices.

FARM AT AUCTION.

ONE of the BEST GRAIN FARMS of Seneca Co., in good state of cultivation, will be sold AT AUCTION, unless previously disposed of at private sale, THURSDAY, MARCH 3d, 1864...

I WILL PAY 18 CENTS A PIECE

FOR good old AXE POLES, at the Rochester Edge Tool Works, in rear of Barton Mills. M. GREGG.

Publisher to the Public.

Additions to Clubs are always in order, whether in ones, twos, fives, tens, twenties, or any other number. Subscriptions can commence with the volume or any number; but the former is the best time, and we shall send from it for some weeks, unless specially directed otherwise. Please "make a note of it."

Help the Agents.—All who wish well to the RURAL are requested to help it along by forming clubs or aiding those who are doing so in their respective localities. Many a person who has not time to attend wholly to the matter of organizing a club can materially aid a friend in so doing. How many readers will kindly do this now?

Clipping the Rural with the Magazines.—For \$4 we will send the RURAL one year and a copy of either The Atlantic Monthly, Harper's Monthly, Godey's Lady's Book, or The Ladies' Repository, For \$3 the RURAL and either The Horticulturist, Arthur's Home Magazine, Peterson's Magazine or The Lady's Friend.

Subscribe Early!—Back Numbers.—Those who wish to secure this volume of the RURAL complete, as we trust is the case with ALL our subscribers—should renew at once; and such non-subscribers as propose taking the paper for 1864, and wish all the numbers, will do well to subscribe now. Last winter and spring thousands were disappointed because they could not procure the early numbers of the volume. To accommodate urgent applicants we disposed of many sets saved for binding, which we now need. After No. 1 of this volume had gone to press, the rush was such that we added 15,000 copies to the edition first fixed upon, and, though the orders are more numerous than ever before at this season, we shall probably be able to supply back numbers to all who subscribe without delay; and as long as our edition holds out shall send from No. 1 unless otherwise directed.

Remit Full Price.—People who remit less than \$2 for a single copy of RURAL one year, (except club agents, clergyman, soldiers, etc.), will only receive the paper for the length of time their money pays for at single copy price. It is useless to send us \$1.25 or \$1.50, and tell us to send one year for that, or add your name to a club (perhaps fifty miles away), for we must and shall adhere to our published rules and terms—especially when our lowest rate ought to be \$2. While many, who might join clubs, send us the full single copy price, others insist upon getting the paper at a low figure without joining a club. As an instance of the difference in people, a California lady has just sent us \$10 in gold for a club of six, asking no premium on the coin—while a Canada man sends us a gold dollar asking the RURAL and American postage, one year (\$2.20) therefor.

Markets, Commerce, &c.

Rural New-Yorker Office, ROCHESTER, February 2, 1864.

THE only changes we have been able to note are in Dressed Hogs and Hides. The former have dropped 25 @ 50 cents @ 100 lbs., and the latter exhibit a slight advance.

Rochester Wholesale Prices.

Table with columns for Flour and Grain, Eggs, Dressed Hogs, Pork, etc. listing prices for various commodities.

THE PROVISION MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—ASHES—Firm; sales at \$5-75 for pots, and \$10 for pearls. FLOUR—Market may be quoted a trifle higher for good shipping brands, with a more active demand for export...

THE CATTLE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 26.—BEEF CATTLE.—The current prices for the week at all the markets are as follows: Extra, \$13.00@14.00; First quality, \$11.50@12.50; ordinary, \$10.00@11.00; common, \$9.00@10.00; inferior, \$8.00@9.00.

COWS AND CALVES.—First quality, \$4.00@5.00; ordinary, \$3.00@4.00; common, \$2.00@3.00; inferior, \$1.00@2.00.

ALBANY, Feb. 1.—BEEVES.—The market just closing has been a "blue" one for the sellers. The price for extra is 25c @ 100 lbs. and on middling and inferior grades 30c@50c @ 100 lbs. live weight.

BRIGHTON, Jan. 27.—BEEF CATTLE.—Extra, \$9.00@9.50; 1st quality, \$8.25@8.75; 2d do, \$7.25@7.75; 3d do, \$6.25@6.75.

CAMBRIDGE, Jan. 27.—BEEF CATTLE.—Extra, \$9.00@9.50; 1st quality, \$8.25@8.75; 2d do, \$7.25@7.75; 3d do, \$6.25@6.75.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Continues in good demand, and the market rules firm, especially for foreign descriptions, owing to the advance of gold and exchange, but with some relaxation in these toward the close, the market has been somewhat unsettled.

BOSTON, Jan. 27.—The following are the quotations of wool for this week:—Woolen, 70c@75c; fine, \$1.00@1.10; full blood, \$2.00@2.10; half and three-fourths blood, 70c@80c; common, 70c@75c; pulled, extra, \$2.00@2.10; do, superfine, 70c@75c; Western mixed, 70c@75c.

TORONTO, Jan. 27.—Wool scarce at 40c @ lb.—Globe.

THE WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27.—Continues in good demand, and the market rules firm, especially for foreign descriptions, owing to the advance of gold and exchange, but with some relaxation in these toward the close, the market has been somewhat unsettled.

BOSTON, Jan. 27.—The following are the quotations of wool for this week:—Woolen, 70c@75c; fine, \$1.00@1.10; full blood, \$2.00@2.10; half and three-fourths blood, 70c@80c; common, 70c@75c; pulled, extra, \$2.00@2.10; do, superfine, 70c@75c; Western mixed, 70c@75c.

TORONTO, Jan. 27.—Wool scarce at 40c @ lb.—Globe.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

ADVERTISING TERMS, in Advance.—THIRTY-FIVE CENTS A LINE, each insertion. A price and a half for extra display, or 62 1/2 cents per line of space. SPECIAL NOTICES (following reading matter, leaded) 50 cents a line.

FARM FOR SALE.—Contains 153 acres. For particulars inquire of JOB C. GRAY, Sherman, N. Y.

SHEEP WASH TOBACCO.—Will not injure the most delicate animal. Kills ticks on sheep, and all other vermin on animals and birds. Cures all skin diseases on animals.

FOR THE FRUIT, FLOWER, AND KITCHEN GARDEN. 1864. THE GARDENER'S MONTHLY. W. G. P. BRINCKLOE, PUBLISHER.

SALESMEN WANTED.—Salary Paid. Apply with stamps to HARRIS BROS., Boston, Mass.

500,000 CRANBERRY PLANTS FOR SALE.—In the Valley of Massachusetts, W. H. Hingham, Mass. Send for Circular on the Cranberry Culture. 733-2t

CURE OF CANCERS—CANCERS, TUMORS, WENS, Old Ulcers, Scrofula, etc., speedily cured without the knife and without pain. Send for Circular. 733-2t

FRESH GARDEN SEEDS FOR 1864.—Gardeners, Market Gardeners and others, purchasing SEEDS in small or large quantities, by sending a list of what they require, and the quantity, will receive the same by return of mail, with the lowest possible prices annexed, for cash. B. M. WATSON, Old Colony Nurseries, Plymouth, Mass. 733-2t

FOR NURSERYMEN.—FRENCH PEAR SEED. Growth of 1863, \$2.50 @ bushel. Apple Seed, grove size, \$1.50 @ bushel. Send for Circular. 733-2t

FOR SALE.—BY FARM OF 67 1/2 ACRES, situated in the Town of Macedon, 7 1/2 miles from the village. It is well stocked with fruit for market, small fruits, grapes, &c.; a young orchard of 500 Peach trees. Good house, (nearly new), corn house, barn, &c., with all the outbuildings in the best condition. Address JOHN S. GOULD, Macedon, Wayne Co., N. Y. 733-2t

FOR SALE.—A FARM OF 66 ACRES, with good buildings, fruit, &c., located one mile west of Parma Springs, Monroe Co., N. Y. Terms, \$10,000 for four weeks. A. L. BATES, Medina, N. Y., or apply to J. M. WEBSTER, opposite the premises. 734-2t

WANTED.—A PAIR OF GAME FOWLS, PURE with large blood, of the largest size, dark color, with best, pheasant tail, and of undoubted courage. Must not be over two years old. Address EDITOR RURAL NEW-YORKER, Rochester, N. Y., stating price, &c. 734-2t

WANTED.—Agents wanted to sell Sewing Machine. \$75 a month.—We will give a commission on all machines sold, or employ agents who will work for the above wages and all expenses paid. For particulars, address BOYLAN & CO., Detroit, Mich. 734-2t

PINE TIMBER LANDS FOR SALE.—Containing 231 acres, in the town of Ossian, Livingston Co., N. Y. four miles south of Danville, near Burnett's saw-mill; valuable ship timber. Address S. McCURDY, Danville, Livingston Co., N. Y., or inquire at the residence of Mrs. J. D. McCURDY, Ossian. 734-2t

OPEN AIR GRAPE CULTURE.—By Prof. John Phin. In your vines now. For a good crop, learn how to do it. The only treatise mentioned in Appleton's New American Encyclopedia for consultation is Phin's. Price, \$1.25. Sent post-paid, by mail. Address 734-2t D. M. DEWEY, Agent, Rochester, N. Y.

FOR SALE BY EXECUTORS.—The homestead of the late Thomas Barnes, in the village of Newark, Wayne Co., N. Y., with ten acres of land in the same, one half or more in vineyard and orchard of the choicest varieties of fruit, now in full bearing. Location central and desirable. Also, 1,200 acres of pine lands in Saginaw Co., Mich. For particulars, address ORIN B. CLAMAN, Newark, Wayne Co., N. Y., or W. J. BARNES, Quincy, Branch Co., Mich. 734-4t

SELECT FAMILY SCHOOL FOR BOYS, SAT AUBURNDALE, IN NEWTON, MASS., ten miles from Boston, on the line of the Boston and Worcester Railroad. It aims to secure all the benefits of a HOME and GOOD EDUCATION at the same time. The number of pupils is limited, the instruction thorough, the discipline parental, the place most healthy. Pupils are received at any time. For Circulars and full particulars address REV. J. E. WOODBRIDGE, Auburn, Mass. 734-2t

NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE. SEND FOR A CATALOGUE, AND ORDER YOUR TREES DIRECT. JUST ISSUED.—A New Illustrated Descriptive Catalogue of Rochester Central Nurseries. Also, SPECIAL TERMS OF SALE. See advertisement in Rural, Jan. 16, 1864. Inclose a two-cent stamp for pre-payment of postage. Address C. W. BREELEY, Rochester Central Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y. 734-2t

HOYT'S HIAWATHA HAIR RESTORATIVE.—Warranted to restore faded and gray hair and whiskers to their original color. Superior to dyes and every other preparation for the hair in the natural and life appearance it gives, instead of the dull, dead black dye, so that the most critical observer cannot detect its use; in the simplicity of its application, it being used as easily as any article of the toilet, and in its beneficial effects on the head and the hair. It makes the hair soft and silky, prevents from falling out, removes all its impurities, and entirely overcomes the bad effects of the various preparations containing sulphur, sugar of lead, &c. HOYT'S MINNEHAWKA HAIR GLOSS, unexcelled in keeping the hair soft and glossy, changes light and red hair to a beautiful brown or black. HOYT'S EXCELLENCE TOILET POWDER imparts softness to the complexion, and is superior to any preparation of powder. Sold everywhere. JOS. HOYT & CO., No. 10 University-place, New York. 734-2t

93 ACRES OF LAND FOR SALE IN THE TOWN OF Geddes, about 3 1/2 miles from Syracuse. Inquire of J. W. OSBORN, Albany. 729-3t

FARMS FOR SALE.—Circumstances have made it advisable that the subscriber should change his business. He now offers for sale his real estate consisting of one farm of 105 acres of choice land situated on a hill overlooking the village of Cary, and distant only 50 rods from it. Cary contains the Cary Collegiate Seminary, making this a desirable farm and home for a family wishing to reside in the village of Cary, and in good state of cultivation. Farm No. 2 is situated 1 1/2 miles from Cary, has good buildings, orchard, wood lot, &c. This farm contains 81 acres, both well watered and well fenced. They will be sold cheap and the pay shall come at the option of the buyer. Possession given at any time when desired. Address the subscriber, either by letter or person, at Oakfield, Genesee Co., N. Y. J. B. WILFORD.

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE FOR SALE.—A farm of about 320 acres belonging to the estate of the late John A. Traut, in the town of Perinton, about 10 miles east of the city of Rochester, and distant only two miles from the beautiful village of Fairport, in one of the most healthy and fertile sections of Western New York. This farm on which Mr. Traut resided for the last 30 years of his life. It is in the highest state of cultivation, free from noxious weeds of all kinds, is well watered and fenced (mostly with cedar) good buildings on Roses, Live on House about 70 acres of heavy timber, including several acres of very valuable cedar. It is well adapted to pasturage or to the cultivation of grain or fruit.

The farm lies in nearly a square form; the rear, on which is the timber, extending to the Erie canal, and about 10 miles east of the city of Rochester, and distant only two miles from the beautiful village of Fairport, in one of the most healthy and fertile sections of Western New York. This farm on which Mr. Traut resided for the last 30 years of his life. It is in the highest state of cultivation, free from noxious weeds of all kinds, is well watered and fenced (mostly with cedar) good buildings on Roses, Live on House about 70 acres of heavy timber, including several acres of very valuable cedar. It is well adapted to pasturage or to the cultivation of grain or fruit.

A large portion of the purchase money may remain on bond and mortgage if desired. For all the premises, or to MILES AYVAULT, Elmira, N. Y., or to L. S. HOBBS, 109 Arcade, Rochester, N. Y. 734-2t

WILL NOT INJURE THE MOST DELICATE ANIMAL. Kills ticks on sheep, and all other vermin on animals and birds. Cures all skin diseases on animals. Kills all insects on plants. Kills all insects on fruit. Kills all insects on grapes and cranberry vines. One Pound of this Extract will make Seven Gallons Wash. For sale by all Druggists, and at Country and Agricultural Stores. Price per pound. A liberal discount to the trade and large purchasers. Orders promptly sent by express. JAMES MILLS, THE ALBANY, N. Y. 734-2t

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THE SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION OF BREEDERS OF THOROUGH-BRED NEAT STOCK, for the choice of officers and transaction of other business of interest, will be held at the City Hall, Worcester, Mass., on Wednesday, March 2d, 1864, at 10 o'clock. A full attendance of members and others interested in the objects of the Society is expected. The Hon. HENRY CONNOR, Short-Horn, Devon and Ayrshire of the Association will be present, and will be assisted by HENRY A. DYER, Sec'y., Hartford, Conn. Price, \$1 each. 732-3t

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NIGHT AND STORM.

BY MRS. SARAH HELEN WHITMAN.

I saw the waning August moon Rise o'er the rocky shore, And on a sad and stormy sea Its lurid crimson pour.

[N. Y. Independent.]

The Story-Teller.

Written for Moore's Rural New-Yorker.

NINA RONALDSON; OR, THE HEIRESS OF LA GRANGE.

WITH wallings like those of doomed spirits, the winds swept up from the river, through the pine trees, over the snow-covered terraces around the castle-like mansion of HOWARD RONALDSON.

The night was black, save, now and then, the clouds were swept for a moment aside, and the moon looked with a ghostly light upon the night.

In the mansion of HOWARD RONALDSON a silence brooded such as always fills us with a nameless dread; a silence born of death. The halls echoed drearily to an occasional foot-fall,—the lamps burned dimly, and one, the great lamp before the western door overlooking the tower, swayed heavily, and went out.

That night a child was born to HOWARD RONALDSON—a feeble, wailing child; but the same wave that swept up from the sea of eternity the soul of the child, carried thither again the mother's spirit.

NINA, the mother, with white lips and her parting breath, named her child. Poor NINA! it were well if the little soul, scarcely removed from Heaven, could flutter back in its spotless purity.

When the spring opened HOWARD RONALDSON closed his princely mansion, left his child in the city with an early friend, and sailed for Europe.

Every provision was made for the comfort of the child; all that wealth could do to make her life beautiful was done for her; yet the little one knew no mother's love, nor yet any affection akin to it.

When NINA was six years old her father died in Germany, leaving her nearly the whole of his large property, and appointing her mother's eldest brother her guardian.

her exact counterpart in character as well as in form and feature.

Mrs. LAWRENCE saw in this new relation to the little heiress, a prospect of the attainment of her cherished wishes.

Little NINA wandered up and down the old ancestral halls, wondering at the heavy black oak furniture, the grand old pictures.

Poor NINA! She understood that it was cousin ANNIE'S home, not hers; and the thought filled her with sorrow.

Now more than ever NINA pined for love. It was very hard to see ANNIE caressed, and she unnoticed. It was hard when ANNIE received her good-night kiss, that she must go to her room without even a smile.

There was one spot she often visited—her mother's grave. Her little feet wore a path thither through the long grass, and often the solemn twilight would find her kneeling before the sculptured cross, her great, soft eyes filled with tears.

O, lost EVANGEL! surely GOD must permit mothers to hover over their little ones. Surely so close a tie death may not sever.

This one joy of the little comfortless heart was at last broken, when Mrs. LAWRENCE said, "NINA, you must not go down to the chapel so often, you need not go at all without my permission; you are always gone when ANNIE wants you, and I think there is no necessity of your being forever out of sight when you are needed."

Her clothes were poor and few—for Mrs. LAWRENCE told her she "could not expect to be dressed finely while she was so young and could not earn any thing;" but ANNIE wore the richest garments, had fashionable instructors, and lived in elegance upon the revenue from NINA'S property.

At school NINA studied diligently, trying all the time to be grateful to her uncle for the advantages he gave, never dreaming, poor child, that all within and without the mansion at La Grange was her own.

She occasionally received letters from ANNIE telling her of her costly wardrobe, her jewels, her attainments in music, French, &c. Now and then Mrs. LAWRENCE sent a small remittance of money, always charging her to be prudent; "people who live on other people's money should not be spendthrifts."

So the months and years went by. Once NINA went to her uncle's during vacation, but was so coldly received that she never repeated the experiment.

Oh! how wearily the years wore on! How she longed, prayed, agonized for something to love; some thing, some one to love her. And often was her child's prayer repeated:—"O, Father! take me home; for the world, I love it not!"

Back to the past her heart went with its gushing memories, and found but one thing to love, the Gothic Chapel above the grave of her mother; and she longed to sleep beside her, nestled down under the long grass.

The years crept on as ever do the saddest years NINA growing every day more beautiful, more graceful and winning, and upon her seventeenth birth-day she graduated. Her aunt then sent to her the following brief note:

NINA—ANNIE is too busy to write. She is very much admired, and engaged most of the time with company.

You are through with school. I suppose you will expect to come to us, and no doubt you can make yourself useful if you try. ANNIE has dismissed her maid, and as she really needs one, you can act in that capacity. We have spent much on your education, and I trust you are a sensible person, and will be willing to do all you can to repay our kindness.

Poor NINA! her heart rebelled, yet there seemed no alternative. Out into the world she could not go alone, and though a life of servitude in her uncle's home would be very hard, yet she had borne bitter trials, and GOD would give her strength to bear this one.

It was late when NINA arrived at her uncle's

house; the night had fallen black and heavy. Her uncle welcomed her kindly, but her aunt and ANNIE received her coldly.

One pleasant suite of rooms had been furnished to please Miss ANNIE'S taste. She was a passionate lover of the beautiful, and nothing had been denied her in the gratification of her wishes.

Mr. LAWRENCE looked upon his niece with real satisfaction, and a sweet memory of his sister—the lost EVANGEL—must have come over him, for he said, tenderly, "a fine-looking little girl, upon my word; nearly as lovely as her mother."

These were the only words of praise she had ever heard in her uncle's house. And her face flushed with pleasure, but changed again to sadness as Mrs. LAWRENCE, frowning, said:—"If NINA behaves well, no doubt we shall think she looks well; a plain face, even an ugly one may be rendered passable by belonging to a lovable person."

After NINA had eaten the cold lunch set before her after her long ride, she followed ANNIE into the parlor. She leaned her head upon her hand, and lost in thought scarcely noticed the brilliant etudes and variations her cousin was playing, until that young lady said, pettishly, "Well, NINA, you haven't so much as told me whether you like my playing."

"Indeed!" replied ANNIE, "indeed! what condescension! But you are no judge of music, so you needn't trouble yourself to give attention."

When she retired her aunt conducted her to her room, a small one, opening from ANNIE'S sleeping-room. It was meagerly furnished, but was good enough, as Mrs. LAWRENCE said, adding, "you sleep here so that if ANNIE needs anything you will be near; and, NINA, here, after, I do not wish you to sit in the parlor evenings. ANNIE frequently has company, and does not need your society."

NINA made no reply. The great burning tears sprang to her eyes, and when the door closed after her aunt's retreating form, she threw herself down and sobbed in an agony she had not known for years.

The months wore wearily on. NINA was little better than servant in her uncle's home. She curdled ANNIE'S hair and attended to her wardrobe, did stitching for her aunt, clear-starched their muslins and laces, read the papers to her uncle; indeed she was very useful, as her aunt herself declared, in an aside, of course, "They really hardly knew what they should do without her."

"ANNIE," said Mrs. LAWRENCE one day, "ANNIE do you know that for some reason NINA excites a great deal of attention? I am sure I can't see why. Only yesterday Mr. COURTLAND said to me, 'ANNIE'S maid is a charming girl.' Mr. FORREST inquired of me to-day, who that splendid-looking girl was. You may tell her, ANNIE, not to come to table when company is present. I declare it is a great care. I wish she would get married. There is WILL, the gardener, plenty good enough for her. Its a chance if she doesn't think now she ought to marry as high as you."

It was NINA'S eighteenth birth-night. She was sitting in ANNIE'S room plating some rich lace into the neck of a beautiful evening dress of ANNIE'S, when that young lady bounded into the room in rather unlady like haste, exclaiming, "O, NINA, throw down your sewing, and dress my hair, put it up in those heavy braids mamma says are so stylish, and quick! HOWARD is down stairs, and with him, MARKHAM GRAHAM. He has traveled a great deal in Europe, is very talented and rich, and splendid-looking. Mamma saw him in New York last summer, and says he is quite a catch."

ANNIE really looked lovely as she fitted out of the room, but ran back to say, "Do sit up for me NINA. I hate to come up stairs of an evening and find you all asleep. There is my crimson merino needs a little alteration; you can busy yourself about that."

NINA stitched with nervous haste until her task was finished, then turning down the gas, gave herself up to her own sad thoughts. How wearily her life seemed to her! How she felt more and more, day by day, the bitterness of her cup! How she longed for love, for some sweet, human love! And yet, this, the one great cry of her heart, had been denied her all her life. The contrast between ANNIE and herself rose before her. ANNIE had love; she had none. ANNIE'S life was bright—hers, alas! all desolation. Below stairs she heard their voices, and very often ANNIE'S laughter ringing out sweetly, and then

they sang. She had heard ANNIE and HOWARD sing together, but the third voice—the sweet, rich tenor—she knew belonged to Mr. GRAHAM. NINA was passionately fond of music; it always breathed peace to her soul; but that night there was a jar in the spirit's harmony. She could not respond to the sweet tones. At last, from sheer weariness she fell asleep, but was awakened by ANNIE, saying,

"Come, NINA, do wake up. GRAHAM is perfectly splendid. He has invited me to ride horseback with him in the morning. Mamma says she is sure he admires me,—but my habit needs fixing; can't you stay up and do it to-night?"

"Won't the morning do, ANNIE? I am very tired, and my headaches."

"No, the morning won't do, it must be done to-night; and if you do not choose to comply with my request, I will call mamma and see what is to be done."

Having delivered this amiable speech, the young lady let her hair down, settled herself in the depths of an easy chair, and took up a novel she had spent nearly all day in reading, while NINA, weary as she was, commenced sewing—and was not able to finish her task until the little French clock struck two. [Conclusion next week.]

Corner for the Young.

MISCELLANEOUS ENIGMA.

I AM composed of 31 letters. My 1, 3, 5, 12, 20, 5 is a kind of drink. My 17, 19, 26, 24 is a part of our wearing apparel. My 15, 14, 7, 20 is a part of the human body. My 25, 29, 5, 31 is necessary to our comfort. My 4, 22, 6, 9, 2 is an article of furniture. My 21, 23, 30 is a boy's nickname. My 7, 10, 11, 28, 4, 22 is to take suddenly away. My 16, 8 is a pronoun. My 27, 16, 18, 7 what fleshy people are apt to have. My 13, 15 is a preposition. My whole is an old and true maxim.

Madison, Ohio, 1864. MINNIE LINWOOD.

Answer in two weeks.

ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

LIKE a fan is the shape of a large wooden wedge; which is square on the top, and is straight on the edge; its shortest length is five feet, and the width at the edge is three feet. A foot square is its top. Now you sage its contents please tell me, for I am a youth, and to you and your sect we look for the truth.

Oakfield, Mich., 1864. H. H. D.

Answer in two weeks.

ANSWERS TO ENIGMAS, &c., IN No. 732.

Answer to Miscellaneous Enigmas.—A soft answer turneth away wrath. Answer to Enigma.—Moore's Rural New-Yorker. Answer to Anagrams of Counties.—Northumberland, Northampton, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Susquehanna, Schuylkill, Montgomery, Somerset, Sullivan, Crawford.

BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

"I have never changed my mind respecting them from the first, excepting to think yet better of that which I began thinking well of." REV. HENRY WADE BEECHER. "The Troches are a staff of life to me." PROF. EDWARD NORTH, Pres. Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y. "For Throat Troubles they are a specific." N. P. WILLIS. "Too favorably known to need commendation." HON. CHAS. A. PHELPS, Pres. Mass. Senate. "Contain no Opium nor anything injurious." DR. A. A. HAYES, Chemist, Boston. "An elegant combination for Coughs." DR. G. F. BIGELOW, Boston. "I recommend their use to Public Speakers." REV. E. H. CHAPIN. "Most salutary relief in Bronchitis." REV. S. SEIGFRIED, Morristown, Ohio. "Very beneficial when suffering from Colds." REV. S. J. P. ANDERSON, St. Louis. "Almost instant relief in the distressing labor of breathing peculiar to Asthma." REV. A. C. EGGLESTON, New York. "They have suited my case exactly, relieving my throat so that I could sing with ease." T. DUCHARME, Chorister French Parish Church, Montreal. As there are imitations, be sure to OBTAIN the genuine.

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DEAFNESS, CATARRH, AND DISEASES OF THE EYE, EAR, AND THROAT.

DRS. LIGHTHILL,

Authors of "A Popular Treatise on Deafness," "Letters on Catarrh," &c., &c., can be consulted on DEAFNESS, CATARRH, DISCHARGES FROM THE EAR, NOISES IN THE HEAD, and all the various acute or chronic diseases of the EYE, EAR, and THROAT, requiring medical or surgical aid, at their office, No. 34 St. Mark-place, New York. To save useless correspondence, persons residing at a distance are hereby informed that a personal examination is necessary in every case before appropriate treatment can be prescribed.

Operations for Cataract, Artificial Pupil, Cross-Eyes, &c., &c., successfully performed.

In consideration of numerous and constant applications for treatment from parties residing at a distance, who are unable to come to New York,

DR. C. B. LIGHTHILL

Visits, professionally, the following cities, at regular monthly intervals, remaining a week in each place. He will be in

Albany, at Delevan House, Feb. 1st to 6th.

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Buffalo, American House, Feb. 15th to 20th.

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Drs. LIGHTHILL'S work, "A Popular Treatise on Deafness, its Causes and Prevention," with the Illustrations, may be obtained of CARLTON, Publisher, No. 413 Broadway, New York, or through any respectable Bookseller. Price \$1.

TESTIMONIALS.

From F. L. Cagwin, Esq., PRESIDENT CITY BANK, JOLLET, ILL.

DR. LIGHTHILL—Dear Sir: It affords me the greatest satisfaction to be able to inform you that I am still improving, and have the highest hopes that my ear will be entirely well by the time you at first mentioned it would take to effect a cure. I can say that I am truly thankful to the kind Providence which directed me to you. Since the first few days' use of your prescription, my ear has improved, and almost at once I was relieved from a very depressed state of feeling and an almost intolerable case to an elastic and hopeful state of mind. What Dr. John Nott replied to me as his experience has been mine so far. My catarrhal trouble seems very much better also, and, indeed, altogether, my health never was so good. I am weighing some five pounds more than is usual for me, (and more than I ever weighed before.)

I can but hope that it may be the good fortune of many, with like troubles, to fall in the way of the benefit of your skill, and knowing how great the fear of imposture is with those who in time past, may, like myself, have suffered by it, and feeling a wish, sincerely at this time, to aid and commend you in establishing a high and deserved position among us in your profession, I beg, therefore, that you will not hesitate to refer to me, as it may be of use. I also inclose herewith, Professor Nott's reply to my letter of inquiries, which I deem highly creditable to you, and of great importance to others, as it has been to me. I will visit you again soon. In the meantime, believe me, Yours, very sincerely, F. L. CAGWIN. Joliet, Ill., July 17, 1863.

From the Rev. John Nott, D. D., Professor in Union College, Schenectady, New York.

FONDA, N. Y., April 29, 1863.

F. L. CAGWIN, Esq.—Dear Sir: I received your letter of April 23, to-day. I have had from infancy one very deaf ear, and always discharging more or less offensive matter. This year both ears became diseased, running very much, very offensive, producing the greatest debility of body and depression of spirits, and my hearing impaired in the highest degree. In such a condition I placed myself under the care of Dr. Lighthill. He has fully restored me. I hear well; the dizziness and the discharge have been removed, and have not returned. The stopping of the running has given me the highest elasticity and vigor of body and a flow of spirits, while my fears were, that stopping the discharge would prove detrimental or dangerous.

I esteem, or rather have learned to esteem, Dr. Lighthill (for he was a stranger to me until I was his patient) as a gentleman and a man of science, in whom the highest confidence may be placed. Yours, very truly, JOHN NOTT.

From the Rev. F. R. Russell, Lynn, Mass.

I have been much troubled with catarrh of the worst type for some 20 years. It gradually grew worse, producing cough and hoarseness, destroying the sense of smell, and breaking down my general health to such a degree as to compel me to resign my pastorate and suspend public speaking.

I made diligent use of the usual remedies, such as snuffs of different kinds, nitrate of silver, tar water, olive tar, and inhalations, but without any very salutary effects. Last Summer I heard of Dr. Lighthill's successful mode of treating catarrh, visited him, and put myself under his treatment. I began immediately to improve, and this improvement has gone on to the present time. My catarrh has gradually melted away, my cough has disappeared, my voice has become natural, and I am once more able to preach the blessed Gospel. Let me advise all troubled with catarrhal difficulties to apply to Dr. Lighthill. P. R. RUSSELL. Lynn, Mass., Feb. 1, 1862.

From James Cruikshank, LL. D., EDITOR NEW YORK TEACHER, ALBANY, N. Y.

This may certify that having been afflicted during the year 1856, with severe and almost total deafness, and having tried the ordinary medical and surgical aid, under the care of those esteemed as eminent practitioners, I was induced at last to put myself under the care of Dr. E. B. Lighthill. His treatment was brief and successful. I was completely restored, and the cure is apparently permanent. I have all confidence in Dr. L.'s skill and integrity in the diseases he makes specialties. Albany, Oct. 1, 1862. JAMES CRUIKSHANK.

DELAVAN HOUSE, ALBANY, N. Y., March 7, 1862.

To C. B. Lighthill:

DEAR SIR—I take pleasure in certifying that you have effected a great deal of improvement in the hearing of my son, Marcus C. Roessle, who had, previous to your taking the case in hand, been quite deaf from the effects of Scarlatina. As I know of many other cases which you have cured and benefited, I have no hesitancy to recommend you to the public.

I remain yours, very truly, THEOPHILUS ROESSLE, Proprietor Delavan House, Albany, N. Y.

NEW YORK, Sept. 2, 1863.

This is to certify that I have been afflicted with Catarrh for some years, which produced the usual disagreeable effects. I consulted Dr. Lighthill about nine or ten months since, and at once placed myself under his care. I am now entirely free from Catarrh, my throat is perfectly healthy, and my health is very much improved.

F. E. NOLAN, Office Erie Railroad, foot of Duane St.